THE

MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

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THE LABOR QUESTION IN THE COTTON STATES.

The difficulties of the Southern planter in obtaining labor have arisen from many causes. Just after the war the negro population became utterly disorganized by the Northern men who went among them and sought their confidence for political purposes. Naturally credulous, long accustomed to be thought and cared for like a child, bewildered by his sudden freedom, under the appeals that were made to his cupidity and his prejudices, the negro rapidly became, as a laborer, insolent, indolent, predatory, and vicious. It is due to the admirable self-control and forbearance of the Southern people generally—naturally there were some exceptions—that such a condition of affairs did not lead from bad to worse, and ultimately culminate in a war of races.

Gradually, however, the labor system at the South has adjusted itself the existing relations between the whites and the blacks. If it does not always work well, it yet enables the planters, with perseverance and energy, and much coaxing and humoring of the freedmen, to raise and market their crops in a manner better than they dared to hope for in the first few years after the war. They have yet to contend with the fact that the blacks are more scattered than formerly—more often rent small patches of land for themselves and live on them in their careless, idle way as best they can. Further than this, very few women engage in farm work now, whilst of the men, pursuits other than those of agriculture carry off a great many. Large numbers of them have left the country districts and now congregate about the cities and towns, herding together in miserable quarters and gaining a precarious livelihood by odd jobs and stealing. Numbers also have died of late years from want of proper care, lack of medical attendance, exposure, and vice.

From these causes the planter has to overcome many obstacles before he can obtain his full complement of hands, and therefore often has to make the best bargain with them that he can. Wherever possible, ready money, monthly or at the end of the season, is the best. It is more easily comprehended by the negro mind than any more complicated bargain, involving a share of the crop, renting of land, or any other terms of hire. The most usual contracts with the freedmen have been,

First.—For a part of the crop, say one-third or one-fourth. This has seldom worked to the advantage of the planter. The negroes, with characteristic logic, have been too apt to consider the crop as exclusively their own, and therefore to work it or neglect it as suited them. They have, in addition to this, refused to attend to any other labor on the plantation without extra pay.

Second.—As stated above, for a certain amount monthly, or at the end of the season, and their food found.

Third.—Another plan has been for the proprietor to rent a portion of his land to the freedmen for a certain proportion of the corp. In certain rare cases, where the freedmen have been trustworthy and have understood something of farming, an agreement of this kind has turned out well for both parties.

Although the difficulty of obtaining the requisite hands has been so great, and the terms it was possible to make with them differed so widely, last year's crop of cotton in the south was good, but the present does not promise by any means so well. The reasons for the crop of the preceding year were twofold, the larger area planted in cotton, and the extraordinary quantity of fertilizers used. As before the war but little land was planted to cereals, and owing to depredations but a very small and inadequate supply of bacon was cured at home. The result was, in spite of the larger quantity of cotton

raised, the planters were left in debt to the West for supplies, and to their factors for fertilizers. It is evident from this showing that the interests of the planters imperatively require that they should change their system of crops. If they are to prosper, more land will have to be planted in cereals and less in cotton. We do not believe that with fewer acres planted to cotton there would be any loss. The demand for the staple is constant, and if the crop is large, prices go down accordingly; if smaller, so as to keep the demand active, prices go up, and so these prices are governed by the rates in the Liverpool market and the stock on hand or to go forward. It is evident that they can only be regulated in the interest of the planters by keeping down the quantity of cotton raised by them to the point at which it can be grown to a profit.

THE SHEEP QUESTION---THE DEPREDATIONS OF DOGS.

No one who has read several of the recent numbers of the *Maryland Farmer* can doubt that the subject of the depredations of dogs upon sheep in Maryland is exciting no little attention at this time. The matter is a most important one, and although we have already touched upon it several times, it is an evil that demands continual exposition until some adequate remedy for it is devised. There are parts of Maryland that are admirably adapted to the raising of sheep. Much also of the land which now lies partially exhausted, and therefore bringing but limited crops, might be rendered both productive and profitable if pastured by sheep. The difficulty however is that this branch of industry involves such serious risks owing to the ravages of dogs, that very few persons are willing to undertake it. The flocks once kept in different counties of the State have in a great measure been given up, and except the choicer kinds of sheep on the farms of wealthy men, the number of sheep within the limits of the State has steadily decreased. Nevertheless, if protection to the flocks could be assured by legislation or otherwise, sheep raising, owing to the tax on low grades of foreign wools, might be made profitable business with us. Even though quite recently prices have declined, they still continue much higher than they were six or seven years ago.

But here in Maryland we have to contend with the fact that our country population is denser than at the West, and that scattered over the State there is a far larger number of half starved curs prowling about our fields, seeking the food that the home kitchen is too meagre to supply.

More than this, nearly every idle vagrant, white or colored, is certain to have a gaunt skeleton of a dog skulking at his heels, and living as his master does, by picking up anything that may fall in his way. The number of worthless dogs kept in this State has long been a recognized nuisance, and a cause of serious loss and damage. We do not care to go over again the amount of loss caused by the depredations of dogs upon the sheepfolds of the different States. They have been heavy enough in several of them to compel the enactment of stringent laws. It may be said by some that we also have a dog law in Maryland. Truly we have, and it is about as much benefit to us, and as little capable of being enforced, as if it were a law of Siberia. Stop! We are going a little, a very little, too far. We have seen or read of a case in which the dog law was sought to be enforced, the statute being apparently similar to that of Maryland. This case was not buried in a dry legal report, but was published in a book of more general circulation, where it was given—and very justly—as a curiosity. The case was tried in North Carolina, and here is the decision. The Judge says:

"The most natural question in this case is whether the defendant's dog was one of the two that wounded and killed the plaintiff's sheep. The sheep were wounded and killed on the night of the 8th of August, and there is some evidence that the defendants dog was not at home on that night, and also that it is *a sheep killing dog*. Some of the witnesses said that the defendant's dog had a very coarse voice, and that they could identify it by its bark, and heard the barking of a dog in the lot where the sheep were the night they were wounded and killed, which they thought was that of the defendant's dog. But none of them saw the dog that night in such lot. I think it possible for persons to identify a dog by merely hearing its bark, without seeing it. Some persons have such peculiar voices they can be identified by acquaintances who hear them talk, without seeing them, and it seems reasonable that some dogs may bark in such a manner, and have such singular voices, that they can be identified in the night time by persons who know them well by merely hearing them bark without seeing them."

The difficulty of conviction upon such evidence as the above must be apparent to everybody.—Dogs whilst hunting sheep in the night can rarely if ever be identified in any other manner than by their bark, and unless caught in *flagrante delictu*, the injured sheep farmer can rarely obtain a verdict in his favor. But assuming that the proof is ample and he does get it, what damages can he recover from the owner of the "sheep killing dog" if he is worth nothing, as is almost invariably the case?—The only remedy we know is such a dog tax as shall be so heavy on worthless curs as shall amount to a prohibition of keeping them. But again, such a tax would be ineffective unless it were rigidly enforced. And so, after all, we are but arguing in a circle.

NOTES AND COMMENTARIES.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

"MARYLAND FARMER."

As this is the closing month of the year, I deem it not inappropriate to congratulate you, Messrs. Editors, upon the successful effort you have made during the year to make the *Maryland Farmer* one of the most useful and practical agricultural journals in the country. The last number was a capital one, containing as it does a varied fund of interesting and instructive information for the planter and farmer. Your selections are always made with great judgment and care, from the best authorities. The eloquent address of Hon. W. P. Whyte, the Governor elect; Jakobb Dunk Papers; The Apple in Maryland; The Care of Farm Stock, and one or two other original contributions, are, of themselves, worth more than a year's subscription. Now, when we consider these facts, the low price of the monthly, its neat dress, and the further fact that it is the only paper in the State devoted to the horticultural and agricultural interest, it is surprising that your subscription list, though large, should not be increased to the extent of that of the best daily political paper in the State. Our farmers and all who are engaged in the culture of fruits or crops of any kind, should take a proper pride in obtaining subscriptions and advertisements, and furnishing practical information, so as to entitle it to the claim of being the best agricultural paper in the Union. With a little effort on the part of a few zealous friends of the cause in each neighborhood, this can be done. The agriculturists of Maryland, as a class, will compare favorably with their brothers in any of the States, in experience, skill, general information and natural ability, and could, if they would, contribute very largely to the general stock of information daily published in this progressive age. The journals in other States are filled with short letters from plain farmers, fruit growers, breeders of stock and poultry-raisers, giving their views and experience, and often valuable hints for the guidance of others. In New York, it would seem every man who rears or grows anything at all worthy of sale, advertises it, and reaps his reward. Why cannot our people do the same? They would soon see and feel the wonderful benefit of advertising. It is bound to result in profit sooner or later. We have as fine horses, cattle, sheep, etc., poultry, fruits, etc., as are to be had in other States; but who knows it, except one's neighbors; the outside world does not. Our farmers and others should advertise more, and they would reap a rich reward in their sales at advanced prices, and be thus stimulated and stimulate other to give more ttention to the improvement of their stock and their crops, so as to bring each to its highest standard, and thus command the highest prices.

Our Northern friends raise a superior Tomato, or grow a new sort of Potato, and by advertising largely they make a small fortune; while we do the same, and no one beyond a neighbor or two ever hears of it, and it is lost to the originator and to the public. If advertising was of no profit, would those shrewd men follow it? Fortunes have been, and are daily, made by advertising. Let, then, our farmers advertise more, which would increase the circulation of their only journal in the State, and bring to them customers in whom they would find their gains, from the help they had given, by their advertisements, to their especial paper, "*The Maryland Farmer.*"

Pear Orchard on the Grass System.

I had a small, select pear orchard which was healthy, thrifty, and bore large and luscious fruit in great abundance as long as I cultivated the ground and kept it clean of grass. Anxious to save labor, I read and believed the plausible theory asserted in the *Gardener's Monthly*, a journal of note and authority, and followed its direction, by which, like Prof. Porter, I lost a third of my trees, and the rest so injured I fear for their recovery. The fruit this year was also very small and indifferent in taste. So much for the humbug *grass system*. I believe a dwarf pear orchard, well managed, is a lucrative institution.

Tobacco.

All good seasons should be embraced to "strip" tobacco. Take pains and assort it well. The extra time and cost will be well repaid when it is offered in market. All sorts should be smoothly pressed by the hand, a bundle at a time, and bulked so as to put it in shape and render it free from wrinkles. After a time, before it gets warm in bulk, it may be rebulked or hung up on small, smooth sticks to become dry, or what is called "conditioned." As soon as it has become so dry that the head of a bundle can be wrung off, it should be taken down when in order and put in a four or six-rowed bulk and weighted heavily. From this condition bulk it may safely be packed any moist day. It should, after being once dry, be exposed as short a time as possible to damp weather, for it will change color if left hanging in the house during long rainy or damp spells. Let it be remembered that five hogsheads, properly managed from the time of planting to packing, will bring more money than ten hogsheads grown and managed after the usual slovenly way. There is no crop that repays so well for neatness and skill in its entire management as tobacco. Mr. T. Kent, of Anne Arundel County, many years ago ironed out every leaf of a prime hogshead, and got $40 per 100 lbs.; and for equally good tobacco, put up in

the usual manner, only got $10 per 100 lbs. If planters would cultivate less land in this crop, make the land rich and work it thoroughly, top the plants low, take great care in handling, culling, and assorting, the same amount of labor would yield double the profit.

Our Legislature

Has an opportunity to do much for the advancement and progress of agriculture, and can, if it will, materially benefit the farmer and increase his prosperity, by passing wise and wholesome laws to either lessen the burthen of taxation, or securing the honest, faithful, and judicious expenditure of those taxes, so that the whole people shall reap the benefit of the tithes that farmers now pay out of their hard earnings. Let the sheep interest be protected by a *tax on dogs*. There should be a simpler and more effective *Free-School system*—more stringent on teachers and scholars, compelling a stricter attendance or forfeiture of its advantages. A good practical *Road Law*, providing for fewer public roads, and those without gates, and put in turnpike order and kept so. The cross-roads leading to them would soon be in an equally good condition (except they might have gates) at the cost of those who required them as outlets from their farms to the great county highways. I know many farms that have been sold the past year would have brought double if our roads had been good and free of gates. We are behind the age, and must "reconstruct" our system, or be strangled by old fogyism. Our criminal law, touching small offences, should be remodelled, and thereby crimes be rendered less frequent and our taxes greatly reduced. Our laws at present hold out inducements to many persons to commit petty larceny. *A* steals a pig, is comfortably fed six months in jail, tried, sent to the penitentiary, at a cost to the county of $100. He is there well fed, nursed if sick, and taught a valuable trade by which, when he comes out, he can make two to three dollars per day. This crime he never would have committed if he knew he would be taken before a magistrate and publicly whipped, or made to work on the public roads, exposed to the public gaze and scorn for three or six months. The solvency of Life Insurance and other Insurance Companies should be enquired into, and laws passed to secure our people from loss of the immense funds they are investing in these associations

The frauds in fertilizers is an important matter for legislation, and concerns vitally the farmers. These and other kindred subjects the agriculturists of the State are deeply interested in, and, no doubt, look with hopeful expectancy for relief or encouragement to the able and practical body of their representatives in the Legislature to be assembled at Annapolis next month.

LIMING LAND.

A correspondent wrote to the American Institute Farmers' Club, asking the following question: "Which is considered the best lime for agricultural purposes?"

Mr. Whitney responded as follows:—That depends upon the character of the soil. On heavy, wet land, lately drained, stone lime, evenly distributed, will be best. On low-lying sandy alluvials I would recommend air-slacked and pulverized. On dry uplands, chalk or calcareous marls, if he has them. As a rule, the weaker and less caustic limes should be applied to land having the least humus or organic matter, and the caustic and freshly slaked to that containing the most. The kind of the other manures used must also be taken into consideration. I would not apply strong barn-yard manure simultaneously with caustic lime, but would put on the lime say early in the fall, and the ammoniated manure in the spring. There is a curious discordance between the teachings of some leading chemists as to whether lime containing magnesia is hurtful to the growth of plants. The older chemists say that it is, and give a very plausible reason to account for it, while some of the more recent, Professor Johnson among them, take the opposite course. The matter is of much real importance to tillage in many parts of Pennsylvania, where magnesian limestone abounds. And if some farmer will try two fields with the same crop and under the same conditions, only one manured with common and the other with magnesian limestone, and report the result, it will be very useful to agriculturists in many places.

To Drive Weevil from Barns.

A writer in a French publication asserts that his father had, a long time ago, his granaries and barns infested with these insects; (*cuculio granarius*) so much so that they penetrated into all the bins and grain stored therein. He placed an open cask, impregnated with tar, in the barn and then in the granaries; at the end of some hours the weevils were seen climbing along the wall by myriads and flying in all directions from the cask. On moving the tarred vessel from place to place the premises were in a few days completely cleared of these troublesome and pernicious guests. The farmer who is troubled with these insects may, as soon as he perceives their presence, impregnate the surface of some old planks with tar and place them as required in his granaries; care must be taken to renew the tar from time to time in the course of the year to prevent their return.

Our Agricultural Calendar.

FARM WORK FOR DECEMBER.

The closing month of the year is, with farmers generally, a month of comparative leisure. Most of the work in the open air, except such as may be done in the woods, is suspended, and the ordinary routine of employment consists in feeding farm stock, in collecting materials for compost, in pointing fence rails, and hewing and morticing posts, and in general repairs. All this work, however, is most essential as facilitating spring operations when the pressure is invariably very great, from the limited time for preparation and seeding before the warm weather sets in. In some cases it may even be advisable during this month to haul out the manure intended for spring crops, but wherever this is done it ought not to be distributed in heaps, but put into one pile and carefully covered with at least one foot thick of earth, and further protected by a thatching of straw or corn stalk. This, however presupposes that the ground is open, which is not always, and indeed not very often the case in this latitude. Moreover, the advice is most applicable of all to composts, as pure manure carted out, heaped up, and closely covered, would be in danger of becoming fire-fanged, unless successive layers of earth were interposed between layers of manure, which would afford ample protection. The work to be done this month is as follows:

Winter Ploughing.

If the frost has not locked up the soil, stiff clays may still be ploughed to advantage. It rarely happens, however, here in Maryland, that the ploughs can be run in December, although such opportunities frequently occur in the States immediately to the south of us. But such ploughing, wherever it can be done at this season of the year, should invariably be confined to stiff clays or to heavy loams of which clay forms a large constituent part. The object of ploughing clays is, of course, to subject them to the ameliorating action of frost, and the furrows must be left rough throughout the winter. Wet clays should never be ploughed either in winter or summer, as they will clod and become hard and inert. Sandy soils should never be ploughed in the winter season.

Collecting Materials for Composts.

Go to the woods and rake up leaves and wood earth; to the hedge-rows and take the turf and wild grasses; to the ditches and marshes, and take the soil, which is largely composed of roots and vegetable fibre; collect the corn stalks, the contents of the ash-bin, and bring all these together and use them, layer by layer, with manure, in the proportion of three parts of rough material to one of manure in the building of compost heaps. In early spring make holes in the piles with a crowbar or sharpened pole and moisten these heaps with the black water of the barn-yard. After fermentation has ceased, break down the pile, mix and cart out.

Firewood.

This should be hauled from the woods and put under cover to season. The seasoned wood for immediate use should be cut into proper lengths and piled up in such quantities as the family needs may require.

Shedding for Stock.

Wherever the means of the owner will admit of it, all his stock should be thoroughly protected by keeping it under sheds during the winter season. Even log sheds filled in with clay and chopped straw and thatched with corn stalks, will serve admirably to protect stock during the inclement season. At all events some sort of protection ought to be afforded. It will lessen the amount of food required to be given, and will tend very materially to keep the stock in good health.

Fattening Hogs.

It is always good economy to fatten hogs during the fall and to kill them before the very cold weather sets in. The colder the weather the greater is the amount of food they require to keep up the animal heat and promote their fattening, which, in very severe weather proceeds slowly. Hogs fattened late should have warm and well protected quarters allowed them, should be served with rich food regularly and in small quantities, to prevent waste, and should have ready access to charcoal, rotten wood, salt, and wood ashes, to neutralize that acidity of stomach which sometimes arises from high feeding. They should also have rich slops as often as possible, and water when slops cannot be obtained.

Milch Cows.

Attend carefully to these. Keep them in sheds moderately warm, and see that their stalls are comfortable, and well bedded. Let them out for an airing every day in mild weather, and give them easy access to pure water. Feed them liberally with rough fodder, chaffed and mixed with a moderate supply of brownstuff—giving them also occasionally slops and messes of roots cut fine. They should be fed regularly three times a day, and receive salt, or a mixture of salt, wood ashes, and shell lime twice a week.

Young Cattle.

It is better, where it is practicable so to do, to keep young cattle in a yard by themselves. They also need the protection of shedding, and should

be regularly fed, though not with such rich food as is required for cows giving milk or in calf.—Allow them free access to water, and give them an occasional supply of salt.

Sheep.

Sheds for sheep in inclement weather are quite as necessary as for cattle. The floors should be well bedded, and the bedding renewed at least once a month. Three pounds of hay or its equivalent should be allowed to each head, and in the yard adjacent there should be a supply of rock salt under cover, to which the sheep can have access.

Harvesting Corn.

Such corn as may not yet have been harvested should be gotten in at once.

Fencing.

Get out fencing stuff in the woods, and haul it to the barn or to open sheds, ready for pointing and hewing as the opportunity may serve.

Gates.

All bars to fields should be gotten rid of as soon as possible. They are simply a nuisance. It is an easy matter to construct a gate, and hinges are cheap. See that gates everywhere take the place of bars.

Draining Wet Lands.

If the frost has not penetrated the soil very deeply drains may still be made, and with this advantage, that an old ax may be used to cut the net work of roots on the surface of the line of the proposed drain, and below that the ground will be found soft enough to dig.

Composts.

Collect materials for compost heaps.

Wagons, Carts, and Farm Implements.

Examine these, and take the earliest occasion to put them in the best condition for future use.

Economy of Long Furrows in Plowing.—A German agricultural journal observes that farmers usually pay very little attention to the length of the furrows to be plowed in a field, and yet great waste of time and labor is the necesrary consequence of unsuitable arrangements in this respect. The turning of the plow and the commencing of a new furrow require more exertion in the plowman and the team than continued work on a straight line, and how great may really be the loss of time from frequent interruptions in short turns, may be shown by the following calculation:—In a field 225 feet long, 5½ hours out of 10 are used in redirecting the plow; with a length of 575 feet, 4 hours are sufficient for the purpose, and when the plow can proceed without interruption for 800 feet, only 1½ hours of the daily working time are consumed. Hence the rule to make the furrows as long as circumstances will admit.

Garden Work for December.

There is very little to be done in the open garden during this month; but where frames are used, the following suggestions may be of service:

Cauliflowers and Cabbage Plants.—If these have been seeded in frames, take off the mats and lift the sash in moderate weather, so as to allow of a free but careful circulation of air. This, however, must be done judiciously, by inserting wedges under the sash in a position opposite to that from which the wind is blowing. The bed must not be allowed to become chilled, but soon after midday the sash must be lowered again, and in the evening must be covered with mats to keep out the frost.

Lettuce.—Lettuce seed may still be sown in frames. After the plants come up, uncover the frames daily in sunny weather, and wedge the sash for about half an inch to admit air. Cover with matting when evening sets in. Lettuce plants that have been seeded in the open air and are well advanced, should now have the protection either of a temporary frame-work covered with matting, or of a light covering of straw and brush.

Small Salading.—Small Salading may be seeded in frames throughout the month, and treated as advised for framed Lettuce. In every case tepid water should be used for watering whenever a further supply of moisture is necessary.

Stiff Clays.—If the ground is not yet deeply frozen, dig these over and leave the soil rough for the winter.

SURFACE DRAINING.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman*, in referring to the surface-draining of wheat-fields, mentions a plan, which is by plowing two furrows each way, so arranged that the last one leaves an open or dead furrow. Then give these furrows a thorough harrowing, making all fine and smooth; this partly fills up the dead furrow, which is then cleaned out by a plank furrow-cleaner that takes a sweep of some six feet—three each way—and spreads and smooths off all taken from the dead furrow. This is done before the wheat is drilled in. When cutting the crop the reaper is not interferred with by these gradually sloping drains. This is certainly an improvement on the common mode, but it is attended with much more labor and expense.

A Scotch agriculturist says he has long been of the opinion that ball smut in wheat is a fungus propagated by adhering to the seed, and unless this fungus is destroyed before being sown, all the grains infected by it are sure to produce diseased ears.

For the Maryland Farmer.

JAKOBB DUNK PAPERS

ON

FACTS, FILOSOPHY AND FARMIN.

PAPER NUMBER III.

ON IMMIGRATION.

I informed you in my last, that the mass meeting called to consider various question, relating to the agricultural welfare of the county, had adjourned after requesting the people to assemble in their respective voting places, to send twenty-five delegates from each district to represent them in an Agricultural Convention, to be held in three weeks, at the "Landin." The yeomanry of the county came up in strong force and among the measures passed was one recommending the Legislature to levy a tax of one dollar, for each dog owned or kept in the county. So Mr. Dunk, and the Codgeites, were not in their natural atmosphere when the dog tax question was made an issue on an intellectual battle-ground: the fox-hunters were there, though, and fought the measure with their accustomed energy, but it was the energy of what Artemas Ward would call a "tremenjus minority." As I intend to refer hereafter to that indispensable adjunct of rural prosperity—agricultural organization—I will dismiss that subject for the present.

The energy and public spirit, enlisted in behalf of the projects mentioned in my last were again sought in honor of another enterprise, "to lighten the burdens of the farmer, and develop the agricultural, and other resources of Maryland," viz: immigration. I was traveling towards the "Landin" one day, when I met Jakobb.

"Good morning, Mr. Dunk," said I.

"Mornin Joodge," he replied, and before I could say anything further or pass on, Jakobb halted square up and asked, with considerable "snap," "Wots, this new thing out 'bout bringing them furriners here?"

"What foreigners?" I returned.

"I suppose you know all about it, 'cos you was there, but I'll tell you wot I heerd up at the Codge, and they was a talking it over at the Landin' too. They say they've passed a bill to bring down a lot Yankees from the North, and to send seven large steam ships over to the old country to fetch in a lot of Dutch, Irish, English, Norwageens, Swegens, and them other fellars over there, that's a cross between a black man and a Injun."—Jakobb's ethnological knowledge was unequal to the strain of comprehending the discussion of a State Immigration Convention, so I hinted very mildly, for I saw he was in high dudgeon, "Perhaps you mean the Chineese."

"Thems the ones; and they proprated two hundred thousand dollars at first, but they say somebody made a motion to make it five, and now we've got to be taxed for it: I tell you Joodge," and Jakobb lifted up his switch hand high over his head, for he was very excited, and brought it down on his animals shoulder for emphasis; "its nothin' *but* taxes: jes look a yer," and he handed me a small strip of paper. As these papers promise some "fillosofy," let me give you an ounce right here. When a man comes up to you, laboring under a pressure of thirty pounds of steam to the square inch, and only built for twenty, the sooner he blows off the sooner he'll feel better, so give him a ful valve and say as little as possible, and that very mildly, until the fit is over.

"What is this, Mr. Dunk," I asked, as he handed me the paper.

"Its my tax bill fur two years: jes look wot I've had to pay, and raised every cent I had on erth' and borried besides: now, pile on yer dog taxes, and yer furriner taxes, and a few more, I spose they'ell git out fore next pay day comes—they're allers' gitting up sumthing new—and then they may take the old place, for I cant stand it: jes look at them fygers."

"Here is twenty-five dollars for year before last, and twenty-three dollars for last year."

"And I paid 'em sixty-five dollars," said Jakobb.

"But here is some 'interest,' and a 'notification,' and 'travelling expenses,' and 'advertising' and a 'levy,' which make up the amount, but we'll talk on this subject some other time; when I will look over the items: now what were you saying about foreigners?"

"I was a saying its all a humbug to git 'em here by spending so much money. If they're a mind to cum let 'em cum: but there's no use taxin people fur it."

"Let me quiet your fears, in the first place about the appropriation," said I, "the State Convention simply appointed a committee to urge the Legislature to make an appropriation of two hundred thousand dollars, but it is not yet a law: in accordance with the desire of the enlightened element of the State, the Legislature may make some appropriation to carry out the project, but I think one eighth of that sum sufficient if properly managed."

"Well, I'm agin' havin' furriners here any how. I don't believe in 'em; they make land high; and when one of them Northern men comes down here he knows more about the country than we do, and then I haint' forgot wot we suffered by 'em in the war."

"They make land high, because they make it *intrinsically* worth more. The more people you put on a piece of land to get their living out of it, the

more that land must produce to support them, and in proportion to its productive capacity is its value. They dont buy up all the vacant land as a speculation and keep it idle, and depreciating—an incubus on the social energy—but they occupy, improve, and embellish their homesteads to their own credit and profit, and the improvement and advantage of the surrounding country: now, what are the consequences in dollars and cents? Our county was obliged to raise a hundred thousand dollars last year, on a basis of twelve million dollars worth of property. Suppose a few hundred foreigners come in, settle, buy and improve the land: when the next assessment is made, these lands would rate higher on the list: and we have enough vacant land in the county to support five times our present population, and bring more money into the county from the sale of surplus products: if we could increase this basis of twelve millions, only ten per cent, it would bring your taxes down to twenty dollars per annum, if paid promptly instead of the thirty three you have just paid, which is quite an item, Mr. Dunk."

"But Joodge, we'll be overrun with 'em; who wants to see every other man a furriner? By me by they'll git so powerful they'll want to rule over us, and then what'll ever become of the country?"

"The large tracts of land we have in cultivation, and the large number of acres owned by single individuals, besides the unimproved land are guarantees that there will be no *crowding*, if that is what you are afraid of: the county population might be doubled in a night, and the difference would be barely perceptible: again the foreigner soon becomes Americanized, and his children are thoroughly American in all essential matters, and as for their "ruling over us," do you think, Mr. Dunk, in view of the corruption and demoralization of the native political element, that the foreign element could do any worse for us? For my part, I am almost prepared to adopt any course that will save the American Republic from its friends, who hitherto, have proved its greatest enemies; again, all our ancestors were foreigners at one time, and we call ourselves good citizens, and as one fourth of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were foreigners, or of foreign parentage, it gives a good indication of their political tendencies, for the rights of the foreign element would be imperiled by the subversion of our institutions, as well as our's."

"Have you forgot what them Northin' men put on us during the war?" said Jakobb, venturing on another phase of the subject.

"The evils we suffered were due to the actions of individuals, and not classes, and to allow an opposition to certain individuals to infect us with an absurd prejudice against a whole people, particularly when that prejudice stands in the way of our material and permanent prosperity, reminds me of the individual renowned in tale and story, who cut off his nose to spite his face."

"I s'pose they aint no powerful disadvantage to the country, but see how they act: nothin's good enough for 'em; they bring in all sorts o' queer ideas about roads and fairs, and these yere farmers clubs, and narrow guage rail roads, and small farms, and batin' societies, and cirkylatin libraries, and county conventions to talk things over, and county agrikulkeral sciette, market fairs, and a thousand other humbugs jes to git money out of a feller, but they cant trap this yer child: why Joodge," said Jakobb with a clinching gesture, "they did'nt have none o' these things' mong them old time people."

"Mr. Dunk," replied I, as I flew the track about immigration for a few moments, to do a little "clinching" on my own account, and to show the consistency of "this yere child,"—"how did you go to Baltimore last week, they told me you went up to see about the pension?"

"Yaas; had a heap o' things to do on the place, and only one day to spare, so I drove over on the pike to Kelly's Station and took the car for the city, and got back the same night."

"Exactly; who was that plowing over in your back lot this morning?" I asked.

"Old Dootch Charley," said Jakobb.

"Exactly again: now, Mr. Dunk, if you are so bitterly opposed to these new fangled innovations and immigration, why do you encourage them by your patronage, whenever it is to your interest to do so?"

Jakobb saw the point, and after hunting all through his head for an "idee" to help him out, replied very mildly,

"I do same as other folks do, I spose."

"Precisely: and would'nt you go to an emmigrant ship in Baltimore and get hands, before you would let your crop go to waste?" I continued.

"I mought," said Jakobb.

"And you would rather marry a smart foreigner, or one of those despised 'Northern' women, than a slovenly 'native' would'nt you?"

It appears that Jakobb's oldest boy had actually married a smart Irish girl, that came into the neighborhood some years ago, and 'right lucky' to get her, in my judgment.

"I 'spose so," returned Jakobb.

"Then, what becomes of your opposition to the "furriner," as you call him?" I asked.

Jakobb pulled up his line, pulled down his hat, and "rekoned he must be fur gittin on," but gave a parting shot in the shape of

"I'll tell you wot it is Joodge, if ye git them fel-

lars here wages'll be so low a 'Merican man can't earn his salt."

"Why don't you hire 'Merican men then, instead of Dutch Charly? and again, did you ever know a time when wages were higher, or a time when there were more foreigners in the country, than this present time?" said I.

"Anyhow," concluded Jakobb, "the folks is agin it," and drove off. It was the mob-reliance on numbers, when truth and justice and reason are against it.

I knew how the wind was blowing after the first few words of Jakobb. He was talking for what votes he could make out of it. He had his eye still on the "something" (squire or inspector possibly) I referred to last month, and whilst I knew from what standpoint he would make his observations, I determined to give him the opposition of his own reason and conscience.

Now, Mr. Editor, let us look into this matter of the feeling in Maryland inimical to immigration. I do not mean the apathetic, but the hostile feeling.

A Baltimore weekly paper of last February or March, contained a communication from a subscriber, who alluded to the anti-immigration feeling existing in a certain county in terms of surprise and reproach. The editor briefly commented upon the remarks to the effect that the pressure of mutual interest was usually sufficient to dissipate, in time, such improper manifestations. Again, a writer in the State has gone out of his way to make sarcastic allusions concerning "Northern assurance," introducing into the placid arena of agricultural disquisition the repulsive features of the Ku-Klux proscription. This is the case:—a resident of this State (an immigrant from the North I infer,) had written to a northern agricultural journal—the *Country Gentleman*, I believe—a glowing account of the luxuriant growth of the grasses in his section. Now, a northern farmer loves the grass he raises as well as his cattle; in fact the splendid structure of northern agriculture rests upon a foundation of grass, and the fact that grass can be raised here in abundance would be one inducement to immigrate to Maryland. But the public is informed by this writer that "the discovery of the fact that grass will grow in Maryland is not due to Northern astuteness, nor is its growth attributed to the self-asserted superiority of the Northern mode of cultivation," etc., and other comments of similar import.

Again, the *Maryland Farmer*, in a recent issue, published an extract from a Dorchester paper, in which that paper lamented the exictence of an improper state of feeling concerning immigration, and deplored the treatment usually dealt out by the native element to incoming settlers.

Again, I was down in Clip County a few years ago, when a party of gentlemen arrived from the North with their own horses, carriage, and a large quantity of freight. Their object was to start two manufacturing establishments, and, after depositing several thousand dollars in the local bank, began to look for suitable locations. Any person who has witnessed the stimulating influence of the manufacturing branches upon the agricultural and commercial interests of the community in which they are conducted, can measurably appreciate the benefits they confer, and an intelligent individual would presume that every facility was extended to the strangers. I was at the landing one day, and heard one of the "natives" bluntly remark to the capitalist of the party, "there are some people that don't want northerners to come down here and settle." The result of that party's investigations was a retreat with bag and baggage (perhaps I should say carriage and cargo) from the place which "didn't want furriners," and yet *two-thirds of the farms in that section are for sale*. They offer the tempting morsel in one hand and wield the lash of proscription with the other. Every person acquainted with the real estate market knows that the home demand for farms is *very* small; will any person tell us what honorable benefit we can derive from bringing strangers among us simply to drive them away by the insurmountable barrier of irrational prejudice? How are the vacant lands of Maryland to be occupied and improved by such management?

Again, the statute books of Maryland contain a provision which prevents a foreigner from owning land *until after he has been naturalized*, and yet "natives" will stand aghast as they contemplate the fact that out of six hundred Germans landing in this country at Baltimore, only eight yield to the "charms" of Maryland, and make their home on her fertile bosom! Of course we flatter ourselves that this is due to the action of the railroads, and convention orators are loud in their denunciations of a corporation that dares flaunt the banners of its supremacy in the teeth of the yeomanry of Maryland, and threats are offered of "crippling" this proud *imperium in imperio*.

Your humble servant don't see it.

One more illustration which I will give next month in continuation of the subject, is an open assault by a Maryland newspaper upon the vital principle of successful immigration to Maryland.

When soft eggs are laid by fowls they intimate, usually, that the organs are inflamed, which is occasioned by birds being over-fed or too fat. Spare diet and plenty of green food, is the best treatment for fowls in that condition.

AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.---XIV.

INFLUENCE OF OXYGEN GAS UPON THE NUTRITION OF PLANTS.

BY J. S. H. BARTLETT, M. D.

Healthy leaves absorb oxygen gas during the night, but the phenomena which they present, vary according to the nature of the plant. The leaves of the oak and horse chestnut, for instance, absorb oxygen and evolve a less volume of carbonic acid than they consume of oxygen. The quantity of oxygen absorbed by plants is in proportion to the state of their vigor, and is also affected by the state of the temperature.

When plants remain several nights under receivers filled with atmospheric air, the leaves continue, though slowly, to absorb oxygen. When the leaves are saturated with oxygen they begin to form carbonic acid, by combining their carbon with the oxygen of the atmosphere. The oxygen absorbed by plants growing in darkness, combines with their carbon to form carbonic acid; this remains in solution in their juices till the sun effects its decomposition, when the oxygen is thrown out into the air by the transpiration of the leaves, while the carbon enters into the composition of the plant. Plants can unfold only in an atmosphere containing oxygen, nevertheless they thrive better in the shade in pure oxygen, than if it be combined with other gases, as azote and carbonic acid.

The leaves of different plants do not consume, in the shade, the same quantity of oxygen. Those of fleshy plants absorb but little, which they retain firmly, and disengage a still less quantity of carbonic acid. As this description of plants preserve, better than others, their carbon, and require but a small quantity of oxygen, they can live in soils of but little fertility, they will flourish upon very high grounds and upon arid sands.

The leaves of those trees which are naked during the winter are in general those which absorb the most oxygen and contain the most carbon. Not only do these plants prepare all the juices which are essential to vegetation and to the formation of fruits, but, after fulfilling these functions, they continue to extract from the earth and air the principles of their nourishment. These they elaborate, and deposit between the bark and the wood, to serve for their first aliment at the return of spring, till the development of the leaves and the excitement of the roots by heat, can provide for their nourishment by the absorption of foreign substances. The experiments of Knight have established this theory.

This phenomenon in vegetation bears a close resemblance to that which is observed to take place in the greatest number of insects, in some birds, and in many quadrupeds, which become torpid during the winter, and are nourished while in that state by the fat deposited in their cellular membranes during the autumn.

From the results of numerous experiments made by M. de Saussure, we infer that plants growing upon marshes and bogs, and consequently surrounded by vapor, consume less oxygen than most other herbaceous plants. In general the quantity absorbed by plants is in proportion to the fertility of the soil in which they grow, and to the quantity of gas contained in the air by which they are surrounded.

It is known that, if a living plant be introduced into a large bell glass full of atmospheric air, allowing it to grow there for twelve hours in the sunshine, and then examining or analyzing the air contained in the glass, the percentage of oxygen will have increased. And if the experiment be varied by the introduction of a small quantity of carbonic acid gas into the jar, this gas will be found to diminish in quantity while the oxygen increases. The conclusion to be drawn from these experiments is, that the leaves of plants, when exposed to the rays of the sun, absorb carbonic acid from the air and give off oxygen. As carbonic acid contains its own bulk of oxygen gas combined with a known weight of carbon, it is inferred that the oxygen given off by the leaves is the same which has been previously absorbed in the form of carbonic acid, and therefore it is stated as a function of the leaves that, in the sunshine, they absorb carbonic acid from the air, decompose it in the interior of the leaf, retain its carbon and again reject or emit the oxygen it contained.

It has sometimes been observed that the bulk of oxygen given off by the leaf has not been equal to that of the carbonic acid absorbed; and hence it is also fairly concluded that a portion of the oxygen of the carbonic acid which enters the leaf is retained and made available in the production of the various substances which are formed in the vascular system of different plants. See Persoz, *Chimie Moleculaire*.

On the other hand it is stated by Sprengel, that if compounds containing much oxygen be presented to the roots of plants, and thus introduced into the circulation, they are also decomposed, and the oxygen they contain in part or in whole given off by the leaves, so that under certain circumstances, the bulk of the oxygen which escapes is actually greater than that of the carbonic acid which is absorbed by the leaves. Such is the case when the roots are moistened with water containing carbonic, sulphuric, or nitric acids. There are numerous cases of the formation of substances in the interior of plants, which theory would fail to account for with any degree of ease were these apparent anomalies to be neglected.

Healthy roots, separated from their stems and placed under a bell-glass, diminish the volume of atmospheric air, and from carbonic acid with the surrounding oxygen; in this case they never absorb a volume of oxygen greater than their own. If a root thus saturated be placed under another receiver filled with common air, it will form carbonic acid without changing the volume of the air, but if it then be exposed to the open air it will absorb a quantity of oxygen gas nearly equal to its volume as when it was inclosed under the first receiver, which proves that free atmospheric air can take from the roots the carbonic acid which they form. It is plain, then, that roots exercise the same action in regard to oxygen that leaves do, though they absorb less of it. The only important difference is, that the roots do not decompose the carbonic acid. This office appears to be confined to the leaves, to which the acid is transported to be decomposed by the solar rays. Not only do roots absorb oxygen from the atmospheric air which penetrates to them, but they disengage that which always exists in the water by which they are moistened. When the roots of almost any tree become surrounded by stagnant water inclosed beneath the soil, and secluded from the access of air, the tree soon begins to languish and the leaves to turn yellowish and die. In this case, it appears that the water has become exhausted of oxygen, without having the power of renewing it; and when that is no longer present for the roots to absorb they decay. If the roots were supplied with flowing water it would be constantly receiving fresh supplies of oxygen for the formation of carbonic acid, which furnishes the principal nutrition of the plant.

The wood, the parenchyma, and in general all those parts of plants which are not green do not inhale and exhale alternately during the day and night the oxygen gas which surrounds them. They absorb a small quantity which combines with their carbon, and remains in solution in their juices, till it is conveyed to the leaves, when it is decomposed by the rays of the sun. It thus appears that carbon, which forms one of the most rebundant principles of the juices and other manures which are furnished to plants to supply them with nourishment, cannot be assimilated, unless it be combined with oxygen and form carbonic acid. In this state it is thrown into the atmosphere, whence it is gradually absorbed by the leaves and decomposed by them. One experiment which would seem to prove this, is that of absorbing by means of lime, or the caustic alkalies, the carbonic acid as fast as it is transpired by the leaves, the consequence of which is the death of the plant.—*Journal of Applied Chemistry.*

To manure or lime wet land, is to throw manure, lime and labor away.

CLEAN SEED---NO CHESS.

A Mr. Harmon Allen, of Milan, Mich, gives the following statement:

While young, I believed, without doubt, that wheat grew chess, and was not so particular as now about sowing clean seed. Then I grew chess, now I don't—that is the difference. Some years since a discussion grew up on the subject which weakened my faith. One gentleman stated that his father cleared and sowed to wheat a swamp in New York, and grew a fine crop of chess, though his seed was nearly clean wheat. I thought that settled the question in favor of the chess, but another gentleman replied: "Seed nearly clean; the wheat killed out and the chess grew, that is all there is about it. It takes very little chess to seed an acre." Another gentleman replied: "Pull up the chess, and in every instance you will find the hull of the chess at the root. You never did and you never will find the root emanating from a kernel of wheat." Another gentleman said: "Cut of the stool of wheat below the head after it gets started, so you can look down from the top of the plant and see it, and it will start up again and grow chess." I tried that experiment, and it came to nothing. A friend tried it with like results. Now I come down to a statement made last year. "Sprout wheat two or three times, and dry each time thoroughly and sow, and it will grow chess." So last fall I sprouted some wheat twice and dried each time, and sowed half of it in my garden, where no wheat or chess either had been grown for twenty years. I dried the other half, sprouted and dried again, and sowed it beside the other, thinking this last sowing was so much exhausted that it would refuse to grow again; but it did, and now both parcels stand there in full heads of wheat. Now, I would say to farmers, don't sow chess, and I don't believe you will raise any; don't sow cockle, and you won't raise any; don't let weeds go to seed at all, and you will farm it much easier and get a better price for your grain.

Burned Bones.

An enquirer at a recent meeting of the American Institute Farmers' Club, desired to be informed whether it is worth while to put the bones which accumulate about a farmer's house into the stove and cause them to crumble and be carried out with the ashes that accumulate.

Mr. Curtis—It has been my practice for years.

Mr. Whitney—The practice, when the quantity of bones is small, is a good one. Of course the gelatine, etc., is lost, but with a few bushels of bones this would not matter much.

A new volume of *The Farmer* begins January, 1872.

WANTS OF THE SOUTH.

Letter from the United States Commissioner of Agriculture.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
WASHINGTON, D C., Sept. 28, 1871.

To the President of the Agricultural Congress, Nashville, Tenn.:

SIR—I congratulate you upon the assembling of your convention. The meeting of Northern farmers and Southern planters in a Southern city, upon the invitation of Southern gentlemen, for the purpose of discussing mutual interests, is auspicious of a better understanding between the people of both sections, and indicates a disposition to bestow upon questions affecting the material welfare of the country, some portion of that attention which has of late been directed to questions chiefly political. Surely, there exists no good reason why those who live upon the same soil, speak the same language, and share the same heritage of blessed privileges, should not agree to join hands in the common cause of material advancement, although they may not be of one mind in the consideration of other questions. Such conventions as yours make such agreement possible, and give assurance of its permanency. Your meeting accords with the various industrial and agricultural meetings of the year which have had a national scope and purpose, and I trust that it may be followed by others of like character, which will bring in their train prosperity to all sections and increased development of our national wealth. It is the South that to-day most needs this prosperity, and it is in the South that the sources of national wealth have been most neglected. The sittings of your convention may, therefore, well be devoted in large degree to an inquiry into the best means of fostering the industries adapted to the South, especially agriculture.

Official intercourse and correspondence with Southern gentlemen and the tone of Southern journals, convince me that the whole people of the South fully realize that their industrial methods have not heretofore been conducive to their best interest, and that enduring prosperity can only come with the introduction of new methods. What these new methods shall be is a problem which a glance at the present wants of the South may help to solve.

With the complete restoration of order and tranquility in the South, which it is the hope of all good men may not longer be delayed, an opportunity will be afforded for capital to take fresh courage; for labor to assume more settled conditions; and for immigrants from Northern States and from Europe to push into every Southern state with the same sturdy enterprise that now leads them into the shadows of the Rocky Mountains and upon the far-off line of the Northern Pacific Railway. These are the three great wants of the South to-day: capital that shall be active, labor that shall be judiciously employed, and the population that shall possess the waste places and make them vocal with the hum of busy industry. The time is near at hand when all these elements of material greatness may be possessed by the South, if it will learn a lesson from the example of those communities and nations which have become rich while it has become poor.

Undoubtedly, the first of the new methods essential to the new life of the South, is a diversification of industry. The example of Germany conclusively shows that the nation which utilizes all its forces and encourages the employment of every human faculty, is the one which takes deepest root and offers the greatest resistance to storms, while the example of Persia, Turkey, and Portugal, shows that nations which engage in one pursuit to the comparative neglect of all others, do not have a flourishing growth, and are not capable of resisting adversity. The people of the South should so direct their future, that success will not be contingent upon a bountiful harvest from a single crop. They should establish new manufactures, and stimulate those already established; open new mines, and develop those already opened; build new railroads, and spread wider the wings of foreign commerce; and most important of all, divide thousands of exhausted acres into small farms, and farm them well.

The South has abundant water-power, extensive coal-fields, and cheap labor. If it will but put forth its hand, it can successfully compete with either New England or Old England in the manufacture of many articles, to procure which it now sends its money abroad. Especially can it manufacture the coarser grades of cotton fabrics and shoes for its working classes. In more than half of the States lying south of the Ohio, may be found iron ore of the best quality, and other valuable minerals. The example of Pennsylvania shows how prosperous a people may become who will manufacture iron. Tennessee may become another Pennsylvania, if it will. By employing its laboring population in manufacturing enterprises, the South will not only retain within its own borders the money of which it is now depleted, but it will have more to sell to other countries. And the more it has to sell, the more miles of railroad will be built, the more certain and remunerative will be the home markets of its farmers, and the greater will be the ability of all its people to possess themselves of comforts and luxuries drawn from every quarter of the globe.

But the South needs most to diversify its agricul-

ture. By devoting its capital and energies mainly to the cultivation of cotton, it has produced two disastrous results; its soil has been compelled to rely upon the West for its bread and meat. To remedy the first error will require time and the exercise of the best brain of the South, but the concentration upon small areas of the efforts now bestowed upon large plantations, will be a necessary accompaniment of all remedial agencies. The second error of looking to the West for the necessaries of life, can easily be corrected by growing all those food-producing crops suited to the South. There are few States in the South in which wheat and corn will not do well; fewer yet in which some of the grasses and the various edible roots will not grow. Cattle and hogs may be raised with profit where these conditions exist, and not the least of the profit will be the fertilizing elements which they will return to the soil if confined to close quarters. An improvement of the breeds now in general use would increase the income from these sources. The South also produces many kinds of fruit and a long list of the choicest vegetables. Indeed, there is scarcely a limit to its food-producing capabilities. A Southern journal has recently stated that there is not a product of the soil pertaining to the tropical or temperate zones, and which is of real use to man for food, which cannot be grown in the South.

In the efforts which Southern people may make to improve their agricultural methods, they shall receive my hearty sympathy and earnest co-operation. The department over which I have been called to preside, was established for the benefit of the *whole* country, and I invite Southern men to look to it as to a friend, and to make free use of the facilities offered.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

FREDERICK WATTS,

Commissioner of Agriculture.

Preserving Sweet Potatoes.

Bryan Tyson, Washington, D. C., made the following statement before a recent meeting of the American Institute Farmers' Club:

I saw in a recent report of your Club that Mr. Fuller, in response to an inquiry as to the best method of preserving sweet potatoes, recommended dry sand. I have, as I consider, thoroughly tested this plan, and will briefly give a portion of my experience therein, believing that under some circumstances potatoes thus treated will keep well, and under others not at all. In the first place I would suggest that the potatoes remain in the ground until the weather turns cool. They should, however, be dug before the ground freezes. The ends of such potatoes as are exposed to the frost should be protected until dug, by throwing on dirt. I have had the best success with kiln-dried sand. This can be very easily done by building a platform of dry wood, with an open space at the bottom of a foot or so. Throw the sand on the top and fire the wood. As the wood burns, the sand will run down into the open space. After the sand has cooled, pour among the potatoes. This plan does equally well in hills and cellars, care being taken not to place too many in a bulk, say not more than thirty bushels. The ashes from the wood will do no harm, especially if pine wood be used. I have used sand for four crops of potatoes. Two of the crops were dug early and treated with sand that had been spread on a floor until it was supposed to be dry. The potatoes soon heated, and many of them rotted, one of the crops being nearly a complete loss. Whether this was attributable to the potatoes being dug too early, the warm weather, or to the sand not being thoroughly dry, I am not now able to tell. In both cases the sand was applied to the potatoes in a green state, soon after they were dug. The other two crops remained in the ground about as long as it was safe for them, there being in one case a considerable freeze soon after the potatoes were dug. The potatoes were all treated with kiln-dried sand, and kept as well as could be desired. I selected two hills and applied the sand to one soon after the potatoes had been bulked. The other hill was aired some two or three weeks by having three or four air-holes at the bottom of the hill and one at the top, when the sand was applied. In the spring it could not be told which plan was the best, there not being, that I now recollect of, a single rotten potato in either hill. For edible purposes, however, it would probably be best to partially cure the potatoes before the sand is applied, as the potatoes appear to undergo but little change after the sand is applied. I have seen them where they had been accidentally broken in putting away, look about as fresh when opened the following spring as if it had just been done. Therefore, when they are put up in a green state they will be in about the same condition when opened the following spring, not having sweetened any by time. I also believe that the potatoes are less liable to heat if they be first partially cured before the sand is applied.

DRAINED LAND AND DROUTH.—A correspondent at Milo, New York, says:—"Drained land has stood our two years' drouth better than undrained, and a free use of gypsum has helped out the crops very much."

ENGLISH history records that out of every thirty colts, from thoroughbred stock, but one proves extra fast.

HAY CULTURE.

If there is one thing in farming more signally important than another, it is the grass crop, worth to the country at least $500,000,000. We are particular about our grain, especially wheat, and the cultivation of corn and the root crops. Our cattle are receiving attention, our sheep, our horses, and our swine, and even poultry is occupying a large share of thought. But the grass, the common grass, that must, in a great measure, take care of itself. So nature made it, but she made it also for man to improve, and he is not guiltless if he neglects his advantages. Five hundred million dollars' worth of grass, and hay annually grown and consumed!—with prices for hay which show that it is not yet sufficiently grown. The demand is for more, and this has been the case for years. Is it not clearly evident, then, that there is an "opening" for the individual farmer? There is "money" in hay, in grass. In comparison with other products, it has superior advantages: this whether it is sold from the farm or fed on it. The point is: To increase its productiveness, get more from the acre. This it is easier to do than to improve the capacity for grain. It is easier because its main strength is derived from the atmosphere. It is also easier to cultivate to produce it, requiring but the harvesting; and that, with machinery, makes it comparatively a matter of small expense, and but a short time—two weeks out of the fifty-two—to secure it; or, the time doubled where there are two cuttings, doubling also or nearly the amount secured.

Here is little labor, little in comparison with that of grain and the other departments of farming. And yet the profits are great. Our best farmers (and they should be made a criterion) realize three tons, in two cuttings, per acre, with clover still more. But if but two tons are realized, this at $15 per ton would reach the nice little sum of $30 per acre—for the gathering; and the cost per acre is not much, while the superior quality of the hay made by our best farmers will leave clear profit the figure we have mentioned. We know farmers who far exceed that on their whole hay crop—who do it yearly. We know of land that has yielded a hundred dollars' worth of clover per acre, and that the present, not a very good season, and on lots from half an acre to seven and a half acres. It was done because the land was good and well taken care of. And this it is that is required—better cultivation, land improved. We take pains, as we have said, with our grain, our corn, our root crops; but we, comparatively, neglect our grass, which has more increased profit to be made than any of these. It has become proverbial to seed down our land to improve it, when our land should be improved to receive the grass crop. This last is being done somewhat; but generally we seed, especially to clover, to renew our land, which is right, as clover is intended for enrichment; but it should not be made the leading, the main thing; here is our error. Preparing our land by high manuring and deep cultivation—good drainage secured—and with plenty of seed (a great need of the day,) and the aid of plaster and other top-dressing, and the yield will be, not only proportionate, but in an increased ratio. And there is no failure, as with the grains open to the air and sun, or subject to lodging. Drouth, or the excess of moisture, each is comparatively harmless; the ground strong, drives the growth; mellows, it favors moisture, aided by the shade of the crop, so that a drouth may be defied. Here, then, is a certainty. There is no weevil, no blight, no smut; there is growth, forced by the strength of the soil, and depending upon it, and according to it. It needs but this. Too much of this is hurtful to grain in lodging it, and sometimes in causing a greater proportion of straw than berry. You must manage your grain; you need not force your grass; it will bear all you can give it. But you must secure properly—cut in time, before too severely lodged. Seven tons per acre in two cuttings have been realized the present season. This clover, and well harvested, worth $20 per ton for feeding, realizing thus $140 per acre. Is this a high figure? The facts of the yield are here; and the feeding has yielded even more than $20 per ton independent of the manure, as also demonstrated here, and as is done yearly. But this clover is cut when all its properties are available, when it is in the full flush of its early blossoming. That it is found pays roundly and satisfactorily. The shrewd ones among the farmers are thus availing themselves of what is presented to them as an advantage. We thus have whole farms, of a hundred and more acres, devoted entirely to grass and clover; grass mostly as summer feed for the dairy, and clover for winter consumption; this for all kinds of stock (in winter,) but mostly for cattle, particularly milch cows, which are sometimes purchased in the fall, milked till nearly mid-winter, and again at the opening of the milking season subsisted on this clover hay alone and improving in flesh, and in the yield of milk. They are then disposed of at a profit, the manure applied and still larger yields of hay made. In a few years, these farms covered with sod, have an increased capacity of manure of from 60 to 80 loads per acre, which on a farm, say of 80 acres in grass and clover, amounts to the high number of 5,000 loads. This is the ordinary estimate. Land rich, as it should be for successfully raising clover and

grass, as in the cases represented, will add almost or quite a third to this amount of manure. Need more to be said? The point is to grow well the grass crop; and the next point is, to grow it in hay, cutting two crops or more invariably, as a rich, well-managed soil will admit and require. Not that the use of sod to improve land should be ignored; it should be made a means; and it is the most effectual, most economical means. The error is, it has been compared with grain which has the advantages of good tillage. Equal treatment, equal advantage, and the grass crop will be far the superior. And that is the way to compare it.

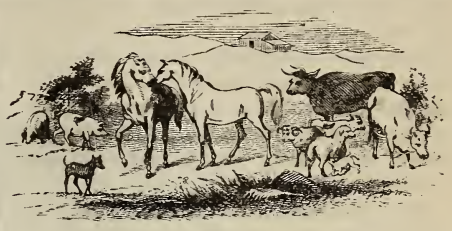
We can then increase our grass crop very largely. By harvesting it early and well, we can make it go much further still. While we are doing this we are manuring our land and preparing it against the time—should that come—when hay will be reduced in its price by the abundance of the supply. But this reduction will not necessarily lessen the profit of feeding, converting the hay into milk and beef; it will rather be an advantage, as an abundance of the hay crop does not necessarily lessen the value of milk and of beef in a corresponding degree. But hay is transportable, and unless the whole country shows an abundance, there is a chance that the less favored parts will keep up at fair profits the value. Besides, there is the foreign market which can not compete with our abundance. We have seen enough of this to make it safe to say that it is profitable, and not at all risky, to engage more largely in the culture of the hay crop. Since hay is pressed and made available for transportation, it is more raised for market in this section, clover and plaster and the aftermath keeping up the land, the timothy which follows being sold, timothy and clover being sown together. But whether sold or not, the grass crop has its advantages which we can not ignore.—*Utica Herald.*

Pickling Wheat.

V. W. T. in the *Rural New Yorker*, asks, "what is meant by pickling wheat for seed and drying in lime?" This: Make a strong brine, pour in it a bushel of wheat, (having brine sufficient to considerably more than cover the wheat,) and the heavy, perfect seed will sink to the bottom, while the foul and imperfect seed will float and may be poured off. By this means the seed can be cleaned of oats and diseased (smutty) wheat; then pour off the brine into another vessel and stir into the cleansed seed enough air-slaked lime to dry it. It is then ready for seeding. We have often treated wheat in this manner, and never had a smutty product from such seed.

Judicious advertising always pays.

Live Stock Register.



JERSEY AND GUERNSEY CATTLE.

A correspondent in the *Country Gentleman*, writing from Brookline, Mass., gives the following interesting account of these breeds of cattle:

As the interest in the race of cattle bred on these islands seems to be on the increase in this country, I will note some of the impressions formed of them during a fortnight's visit this summer, at the time of the Channel Islands Fair, held in Jersey. This fair, the first general one ever attempted, was very successful. The grounds were delightfully situated, commanding a fine view of the beautiful island and bay; the weather was perfect, and the people turned out in great force. More than 300 animals were shown, besides a fine display of fruit, flowers and agricultural produce. The Jersey cattle were the most numerous; there were not more than 20 from Guernsey, and none from Alderney or the other smaller islands. The Jersey bulls, about 40 in number, were a very superior lot, and the young cows and heifers with calf especially good. From conversation with farmers and others, I found the general idea of the derivation of the Channel Island cattle to be that they came originally from France, from the provinces of Brittany and Normandy.—It was thought that years ago there may have been some intermixture of the cattle on the various islands, but that for fifty years at least they have been kept quite distinct. At the present day there are strict laws in both Jersey and Guernsey forbidding the importation of their respective breeds, or any cattle that can be used for breeding purposes. The island of Alderney, by the way, is a province of Guernsey, and there is no restriction on the interchange of cattle between these two. Jersey being the largest island of the group, there is more stock on it and more people interested in its improvement.

In Guernsey the farmers seem to have been satisfied with the quality of their animals, and have hardly paid the attention they might in all cases to improving the form. In Jersey, on the contrary, so much attention has been given to beauty, high-

bred appearance, solid color, &c., that they seem to be in danger of sacrificing to a certain extent the richness and high color of the milk. As an instance that the Jersey breeders are influenced partly by fashion rather than quality, they consider anything but a black nose inadmissible; while the Guernsey breeders have cows with pink noses as well as black, and think it a matter of no consequence, looking more to the capacity for milk, and the yellowness of the true skin.

In the qualities of richness of milk, and its deep yellow color, the Guernseys as a race seemed to be superior. At the fair I saw no Jersey butter equal in color from specimens from Guernsey exhibited there; in fact, some of the Jersey butter was artificially colored, and all through the island of Guernsey, at the farms, in the market, and at the hotel, the butter was of the first quality in color and flavor. At the All-England Agricultural show at Wolverhampton in July, the first prize in butter was called Guernsey, but whether this would be of real significance is doubtful, as it is only this year for the first time that the English have judged Jerseys and Guernseys in separaie classes—hitherto they have been in the habit of calling them indiscriminately Alderney or Channel Island cattle.

The Jersey cattle are a smaller race than the Guernsey, the latter having generally large frames and coarser bone. This is more marked in the bulls even than in the cows. The Guernseys are ssid to fatten quickly when their usefulness is over in the dairy, and to make excellent beef. I can see no reason why crosses should not be made between the two breeds from selected animals, to the improvement of both, and some of the Jersey people seemed to hold the same idea, for the owner of one of the Guernsey bulls at the fair was asked several times to allow the services of his animal while there, but he declined. Being noted for the same quality, richness of milk for butter making, and being originally of similar derivation, one would think the cross would be desirable, and in that way greater general perfection arrived at. Many of our most noted Channel Island cows here now, and their ancestry, are thought by some judges to show a dash of Guernsey, and some fine animals called Jerseys have probably been purchased and imported from England, where they have been in the habit of crossing the two, procuring them from either island and calling them all Alderney. The Jerseys would give the beautiful heads, level backs, &c., and the Guernsey would improve the size, the skin, color, and the fattening qualities. I saw some Guernsey cows that seemed to have all the desirable points of quality, size, and beauty; some Jerseys also that left nothing to be desired, except perhaps size, but I speak of the average types.

To sum up, a comparison of these two breeds of Channel Island cattle, it might be put in this way, in order of excellence:

	First.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Jerseys	Beauty.	Butter.	Beef.
Guernseys	Butter.	Beef.	Beauty.

Crossing the two would give an animal that would do credit to any gentleman's lawn, be of first quality in the butter dairy, and not in the end to be sold for a mere song to the butcher.

PIG BREEDING AND FEEDING.

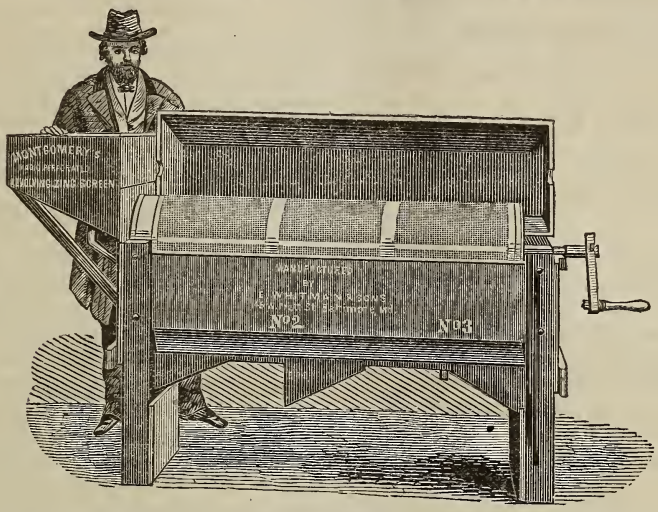
Mr. Mechi, the prince of experimental farmers, says the same rule applies to pigs as well as to other animals; choose the best male parent of a thrifty breed. Let the breeding sow work for her living, for if you feed her bountifully she will get fat and have few pigs. But he says to have good pigs, she must have the right sort of food to make bone, muscle and fat; but avoid the fatal mistake of giving the sow a large quantity of roots before parturition. Let her run in pasture, and have a moderate supply of bran, a little meal and boiled potatoes, a few turnips, but very few mangolds; a moderate supply of peas, beans and barley, or soaked Indian corn may be added, also clover and green beans in the pods.

Nothing comes amiss to the sow. The great point is to give a variety, and not too much of one sort, especially roots. But after parturition roots may be more liberally given, especially cabbage in conjunction with other food, but immediately after parturition the diet should be sparing and cooling. In cold weather, warmth and shelter are indispenable. Never allow a pig to bury itself in stable manure, or catch cold by sleeping on the cold ground. For fattening pigs nothing beats one-third pea meal, and two-thirds barley meal; if mixed with skim milk, steamed roots and potatoes, they grow and fatten very fast. He fattened 200 pigs one season without loosing any by disease.—To promote ventilation they were all placed on sparred floors, and in hot weather they were all treated daily with a shower-bath, which kept them very clean. He put straw on the floors in cold weather, and he says pigs pay in manure better than most other animals. They should have salt and plenty of pure water.

Sugar Beets for Hogs.—A writer in the *Practical Farmer* says that he finds the sugar beet very good to fatten his hogs with. He begins with the beets, and finishes off with corn. As the result of his experience, he found that his hogs fattened earlier, with a material saving of corn.

Shallow ploughing operates to impoverish the soil, while it decreases in production.

MONTGOMERY'S REVOLVING PERFORATED ZINC SCREEN.



The above cut is a representation of Montgomery's New Wheat Screen, which has been successfully tested by a number of our grain merchants and farmers. This Screen is made in three sections, of perforated zinc, each section having different sized holes, they being *round* instead of *square*, as in wire screens. The cylinder revolves in a frame or box, the box being so made that the cockle and small wheat from each section runs out separately, thus obviating the difficulty attending the cleaning of grain with the Fan, as the meshes in the Screen soon become filled up, either with large cockle or small wheat, when it is necessary to suspend the work of the Fan until the Screens are cleaned out. It is claimed that the zinc Screen will turn out better wheat at one separation, than can be got after passing four or five times through the Fan, and that the Screen always remains open and clean, hence losing no time in the cleaning of the perforations. The advantage claimed over all other cockle machines is its cheapness, speed and simplicity; and further, while other machines may take out the cockle, they will not give you the different *grades* of wheat.

Grain Raising without Stock.

A test is being made in England of the theory that thorough cultivation and mineral fertilizers will indefinitely keep up the productiveness of strong soils. A correspondent of an English journal writes thus of the farm and system of Mr. Prout, a large farmer in Hertfordshire:—

I walked over 450 acres of land, all under the plow, on which not a hoof nor a horn has been kept for ten years, except the work horses, and even these are all but superseded by the steam engine. In an experiment made this season, and still open to inspection, on potatoes, mangolds, swedes, carrots and maize, I have found that excessive manuring does not lead to profitable results; but on Mr. Prout's system, applied on the Bagshot sand formation, I should not have expected any crop at all. Mr. Prout purchased artificial manures, it is true, equivalent to £3 an acre, but his main dependence is on the soil itself, and the atmosphere, in opposition to the shallow tillage and the dung-cart, and already a great part of his land is laid up in the rough, imbibing atmospheric nutriment for next year's crops.

Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1870.

We have received from the Department the Annual Report of the Commissioner. It contains some 700 pages, and matter of a highly interesting character. In addition to the Reports of the Commissioner, the Superintendent of Gardens and Grounds, the Statistician, the Entomologist, the Chemist, the Botanist, Report on Agricultural Meteorology, and Report on the History and Progress of the American Pomological Society, by Marshall P. Wilder, it also embraces a number of ably prepared papers on a great variety of subjects, among which are: Minor Vegetable Products and their Sources; the Beet Sugar Industry; Grasses of the Plains, etc.; Forest Culture; Silk Culture; the Market Systems of the Country; Farming in New England; Green Corn Fodder for Cows; the Dairy; Management of Fowls; Epizootic Aphthæ; Structure and Diseases of the Horse's Foot; Agricultural Implements and machines; Mineral Manures, together with treatises on a variety of subjects of great interest to the agricultural public. It is illustrated with some thirty odd engravings.

THE

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AT $1.50 PER ANNUM,

PUBLISHED THE 1ST OF EACH MONTH,

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Each subsequent insertion, not exceeding four	15 00
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Barnes Compton,
Benjamin Hallowell,
Dr. E. J. Henkle,
John Merryman,
Luther Giddings,
Ed. L. F. Hardcastle,
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John Carroll Walsh,
Daniel C. Bruce,
Augustus L. Taveau,
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Dr. Montgo'ry Johns,
C. K. Thomas,
John B. Russell,
Depart. of Agriculture.
Prof. Wm. P. Tonry,
Robert Sinclair,
B. W. Jones, Va.
Geo. H. Mittnacht.

Maryland Farmer for 1872.

We would remind our readers that the present number completes the volume for the year 1871 of the MARYLAND FARMER. We design making such improvements in its management for the coming year as will commend it more highly to the people of our State and neighboring States. We earnestly ask the co operation of our readers to aid us in extending its circulation more generally. A very little effort on the part of our friends would secure a good list, or at any rate an extra copy.

To Postmasters and Others.

We offer as an inducement to postmasters and others to solicit subscribers to the MARYLAND FARMER, *fifty cents* on each subscriber sent—being $1 per annum.

CONCLUSION OF THE EIGHTH VOLUME OF THE MARYLAND FARMER.

A Few Words to our Friends.

With the present number the eighth volume of the *Maryland Farmer* is brought to a close. An examination of its pages for the current year will show, we are confident, that the "FARMER" has fairly, and not unworthily justified its title, and that in "Agriculture, Horticulture, Rural Economy, and the Mechanic Arts," so far as the latter have any relation to the affairs of Husbandry, it has given to its readers information as varied, valuable and accurate as any journal of its class and price in the country.—Its primary object has been, of course, the dissemination of agricultural knowledge. This it has sought to do by the publication of short, pithy, condensed articles, in preference to long and elaborate, and often dry Essays. Whilst we have striven, however, to give variety to the *Farmer*, and to make it popular and thoroughly readable, we have not neglected, when the occasion seemed to call for them, to publish articles of a longer kind, original and selected, upon such agricultural topics as were fresh, and which seemed necessary to us to require to be given in detail.

The *Maryland Farmer* is now the only Agricultural Magazine published in this State. Under such circumstances, and consulting, as it does, the best interests of the Farmers and Planters of Maryland, and of the Southern States generally, it must be evident that it occupies a field in which it is capable of doing much good. It has met, heretofore, with the kindest welcome, and the warmest expressions of good feeling from its many friends, and we sincerely hope that it will continue in the future to merit their regard, and to supply them, if that be possible, with even more acceptable reading, adapted to the special wants of the Farmer and his family, and appertaining to those matters that bear upon the duties of the Field, and the comfort of the Fireside.

For the new volume, commencing on the 1st of January next, we respectfully solicit additional subscribers. The price of the *Maryland Farmer* is very low—only a dollar and a half a year—whilst we are free to believe that there is not a number of it issued that has not heretofore, and will not fail hereafter, to furnish in its pages some hints, suggestions, or facts in regard to agricultural pursuits, worth more than the price of the whole year's subscription.

Specimens.—Specimen copies of the *Maryland Farmer* sent FREE to any address.

LARGE TURNIP.—We have received from Mr. A. J. Levering, of Fallston, Harford county, Md., a fine specimen of scarlet top turnip, raised on his farm, weighing about six pounds.

PLEURO PNEUMONIA.

We publish an interesting communication from the pen of J. Wilkinson on the subject of Pleuro-Pneumonia, which has recently broken out among some of the finest herds of cattle in Maryland. The subject is of vast importance to our people, especially those engaged in stock raising. We would suggest that the Maryland State Agricultural and Mechanical Association take some speedy action in relation to this matter, perhaps, by calling a meeting and appointing a commission to investigate the character of the disease which has proved fatal in so many instances. It strikes us that the President, Mr. Rieman, could not do a greater service to the cause of agriculture than by taking some action in the premises looking to a thorough investigation of the prevailing cattle disease. In the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1870, recently published by the Department, he alludes to this subject as follows:

"The value of stock lost annually from disease is enormous, and threatens not only to decimate our animals, but to expose the human family to disease from the consumption of unwholesome meats. Neglect of animals, and their overcrowding in transportation, are prolific sources of disease, and its spread is permitted by the ignorance of a majority of the present class of veterinarians. Another class of disease arises from causes but obscurely known, if known at all, and these fatal maladies are as yet without any indicated effort of cure, rendering necessary the barbarous plan of stamping out, recommended and adopted in other countries as well as our own, as the only means of saving the agriculturist or stock-raiser from total ruin."

Agents for the Farmer.

Good active agents are wanted at every Postoffice in the country, to take subscriptions for the MARYLAND FARMER, to whom a liberal commission will be allowed.

Where single copies are now taken we would request the subscriber to act as agent or secure the services of the Postmaster or some competent person to act for us. Where farmers club together to the number of *five* and upwards, the magazine will be furnished at $1 per annum for each subscription.—Will our friends serve us?

THAT the use of a sufficient quantity of good muck to absorb the liquid portions of manure, house-slops, &c., and to increase the bulk of the droppings by one-half, is a paying investment, is confirmed by the experience of many practical farmers.

ALSIKE CLOVER---STEAMING FOOD.

The following we extract from a letter from an esteemed correspondent in Cumberland, Md., who has fully tested Alsike clover, &c., and says:

"I owe you apology for not writing you occasionally to give you the result of my farming operations during the present year. I will now say that notwithstanding the drouth, and the exceedingly short crop of hay in this county, I cut fully three and a half tons of Alsike clover to the acre. Besides it is decidedly the best pasture on my farm. Every farmer in the State should try it, as I am certain they will be well rewarded.

I have fully tested, to my own satisfaction, the great advantage, to say nothing of the saving, made in cutting and steaming hay, fodder, &c., for stock. If the farmers of our State could only be induced to try it for one winter, I am certain they, like myself, would be convinced, and never feed in any other way. I have not got an agricultural steamer, but use a large cauldron for heating the water which I pour over the feed (which I place in a large chest,) some hours before using it. It will keep hot and in good condition for feeding for more than 24 hours. A steamer is the most convenient and less expensive in the end, I am very certain. Wishing you every success, I remain, yours."

Plan for an Ice House.

If a good location is selected, says the *Western Rural*, the following plan of building an ice house will be found to answer the purpose very well. We have published descriptions of more expensive houses for ice, but this, which we find in a cotemporary, can be built with comparatively small expense.—For an ordinary farm purpose make an excavation 10x14 feet, 12 feet deep; dig a trench and lay tile or some other material in the bottom, to prevent any water from standing, which will melt ice very fast. Wall up all around eight feet; then put on your center, and turn a good arch over the entire length. The arch ought to be made of brick nine inches thick, and four feet elevation, or of stone twelve inches thick. Put the door in at one end perpendicular; also a trap door as in out-door cellars; run a flue about four feet from each end to carry off the heat and gas. Cover the arch with earth to the depth of three feet, and sod over and plant a clump of trees to prevent the sun from shining on the mound, and you have a house or cellar that will last an age, and give good satisfaction. The perpendicular door 2x4½ feet is large enough for convenience; a cellar of the above size can be built for $75, all complete, and, if properly filled, will supply the demand of any ordinary family.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA IN CATTLE.

To the Editors of the Maryland Farmer:

I have sad intelligence to communicate to the owners of cattle in this region.

The lung plague, or contagious pleuro-pneumonia, has reappeared in Baltimore city and county, and of a virulent type. In consequence of the absence of a knowledge of the symptoms of this disease, dairymen and stock owners generally, are liable to lose one or more of their animals before they are aware of the character of the disease from which they are suffering. In the incipient stage of the disease nothing short of a very careful observance of the appearance and comport of each animal will detect it; and with the most assiduous care and the closest observation the presence of the disease is liable to escape attention, unless the observer has had some experience in the matter.

For the benefit of those who are so fortunate as to be readers of your valuable journal I will state the characteristic symptoms of pleuro-pneumonia as given by Dr. J. B. Coleman, who has charge of all the animals now afflicted with pleuro-pneumonia in Baltimore city and county, that is, as far as the disease is known to exist.

He says that the symptoms are sometimes well marked, at others ambiguous, and that diseased animals are liable to be everlooked even by veterinarians in examining a herd, and those supposed to be exempt are dead in a few days.

The existence of the disease may generally be determined by the way the animal comports itself; if all are closely watched, early and late. In the field or yard, the affected ones generally separate themselves from the herd and stand alone. The coat stares, and the back is apt to be raised; the front feet well forward, and the hinder ones well under the center of the body, and the elbows will be thrown off from the body, probably to avoid the painful pressure of this portion of the front limbs against the ribs overlying the lungs. As the disease advances, a slight, husky, dry cough, will appear, spasmodic at first, but subsequently it becomes almost continuous, attended with an audible grunt at nearly every exhalation.

The cough is generally very slight at first, so much so that it is liable to escape attention. The breathing is quick and labored, and the pulse quick and weak. The bowels not unfrequently torpid, the animal moans, and in the latter stages, diarrhea sets in. The eyes are staring, and the extremities alternately hot and cold, though generally the latter condition prevails. Sixty pulsations per minute is about normal, but with this disease in the latter stages, it not unfrequently gets as high as 120. It is Dr. Coleman's opinion, and I find that he is sustained by the veterinary profession generally, that *cure* of this disease is very uncertain, that it is contagious, and that the germs of it may be seated in an animal for many months, if not for years, and it will be apparently as well as ever; but that *prevention* is quite certain through the agency of proper inoculation. Dr. Coleman was in Australia in 1863, '64 and '65, when the P. P. so fearfully decimated the countless herds of that country.

He made the inoculation of cattle a specialty for years, operating on hundreds of thousands of animals, and with the most marked success. He informs me that the loss among those properly inoculated did not exceed one per cent. Three fine animals had died in one herd in this county before Dr. C. was called to their charge. None have died since, the period being about one week. It is Dr. C.'s purpose to inoculate all the well animals in his charge. A gentleman in this county, owning a large herd, among which are some of the finest Alderney cattle in this region, called on Dr. C. yesterday, and told him that he had satisfied himself that the only safety was inoculation; that he should have all inoculated as soon as one animal was attacked. The Dr. thinks it would be more discreet not to wait for the appearance of the disease in the herd.

I shall watch the progress of the disease, and the effect of treatment, and shall report for your next issue.

Truly yours,

J. WILKINSON.

Signal Service.

From the War Department we have received "The Practical Use of Meteorological Reports and Weather Maps," issued from the office of the Chief Signal Officer of the United States. The Department makes the following announcement:

"It is the object of this publication to put it in the power of the largest number to make use of, and to profit by, the labors of this Office: to enable them to test, and to avail themselves of some of the laws and generalizations by which meteorologists are guided; and to afford the means by which at once to supplement, judge of, and aid the work of the Department."

To those interested this circular will prove of great importance, as it gives the detail workings of the Signal Service.

SUCCESS IN STOCK KEEPING is usually gained by making the animals *comfortable;* they need shelter from storms and cold; they want fresh air, a variety of food, regular meals and undisturbed rest.—They should not fear their attendants, nor be accustomed to different ones.

SALE OF IMPORTED CATTLE.

Messrs. P. H. Sullivan & Son, auctioneers, sold on Tuesday, November 21st, at Kearney's stables, on Centre street, Baltimore, a fine lot of Jersey, Guernsey and short-horn cows and heifers, sheep, pigs, poultry, &c., imported into the port of Baltimore by the ship Hansa, and consigned to Messrs. Ricards, Leftwitch & Co. by Mr. Edw. Phillip Parsons Fowler, of the Island of Jersey, England.—There was quite a full attendance at the sale, several purchasers being present from Pennsylvania and Virginia, but the bidding was anything but spirited, and the prices realized rather low. Of the Jerseys, "Moonstone," a three-year old cow, in calf with second calf, was purchased by W. L. Peiper, of Lancaster, Pa., for $95; brown gray heifer "Vance," two years old, in calf to parochial prize bull Hero, purchased by Galloway Cheston for $160; fawn colored heifer "Fontaine," two years old, in calf to parochial prize bull Theodore, purchased by W. L. Peiper for $135 ; four-year old cow "Lucy" and bull calf, born at sea, purchased for $246 by Mr. Robert Moore, of Baltimore, county ; two-year old heifer, "Mischief," fawn color, to calve in a few days, $130, to Galloway Cheston; two-years old heifer "Damsel," in calf, to W. L. Watts for $165; a 22 months old heifer, "Le Creame," to calve in April, purchased by J. E. Phillips for $205; two-year old heifer "Princess," to calve in a few days, to W. L. Peiper for $160; "Duchess," a 30-months old heifer, with her bull calf, a few days old, purchased by Col. J. S. Jenkins for $340; "Sister," a two-year old heifer, with bull calf by her side, heifer purchased by G. S. Watts for $290, and the calf by Hugh Jenkins for $30. Of the Guernseys, two-year old heifer "Fairy," in calf, purchased by W. L. Pieper for $110 ; two-year old heifer "Romp," in calf, purchased by Mr. Rhett for $90; "Beauty," a two-year old heifer, in calf, purchased by G. B. Milligan for $100; "Merry," two-year old heifer, in calf, purchased by Mr. Watts for $105; "Duchess," two-year old heifer, in calf, to Mr. G. B. Milligan for $115. Of the short horns, "January Rose," roan colored, two-year old, with first calf, purchased by J. S. Tanner, of Virginia, for $200; red roan heifer "Eleanor 3d," with her first calf two days old, purchased by Dr. J. P. Thom for $155; roan cow "Fleda's Farewell," in calf by Duke Ferdinand 3d, purchased by Col. John Fairfax, of Virginia, for $140; red heifer "Sycamor 2d," calved February, 1870, in calf by Duke of Clarence, purchased by Col. Fairfax for $175; "Rose Bloom," calved March 1st, 1870, in calf, purchased by H. Zeller, of Hagerstown, for $80; roan heifer "Moorefern," calved January 7, 1870, in calf by 3d Duke of Wharfedall, purchased by E. C. Coffin, of Prince George's County, for $215. A Jersey heifer calf, ten weeks old, was bought by Mr. J. C. Smith for $45. "Mammoth," a three-year old pure bred Shetland pony stallion, 30 inches high, sold to J. H. McHenry for $75 for a party in New York; "Eclipse," a three-year old red roan pony stallion, purchased by H. Smith for $75; "Janet," a four-year old pony mare, purchased by R. Renshaw for $120. There seemed to be a much greater competition to obtain the skye-tarriers than the horned cattle, and the seven offered brought prices ranging from $16 to $45. Four yearling ram lambs sold for from $25 to $41. The sets of Derby game fowls brought from $5 to $11. A seven month old boar was purchased by A. B. Patterson for $16, and a nine-month old sow by the same for $25.

TEA CULTURE.

James McPherson, of England, has sent a letter to Dr. Young, chief of the statistical department, who has referred it to the Commissioner of Agriculture for consideration. The writer says he is induced to ask, is there any hope of the cultivation of tea being undertaken by the government of the United States in California, the Carolinas, or elsewhere, and, if so, at what period? Machinery is now employed reducing, to a great extent, the labor required in the manufacture, and the cultivation would be a most important addition to American industry.

He is not very desirous of emigrating to America, and as a tea planter, he encloses testimonials asking that his claims be kindly represented should the opportunity arise. He has more information relating to tea than has yet been published, which he should be glad to publish if encouraged to do so. It appears from the testimonials inclosed with the letter that Mr. McPherson was formerly employed in the famous Kew Gardens, near London, and has subsequently had the charge of an extensive tea plantation near Madras, in India, where he took the prizes of the Horticultural Society for three years for the best samples of India and China teas. He has also recently received the commendation of the Indian committee of the Society of Arts, England, for an essay on tea culture, as containing much information as to the growth and manufacture of tea in India.

Mr. C. E. COFFIN, Muirkirk, Md., has sold the Short-Horn bull calf Sonsie Laddie, to Wm. Beverley, Leesburg, Va., also Berkshires as below—to D. P. Graham, Wytheville, Va., one boar; D. C. Kent, Dublin, Pulaski Co., Va., one boar and sow; John S. Draper, Dublin, Va., two sows; J. Cortlan, Jr., Hendersonville, N. C., one boar and two sows.

Grape Culture.

GRAPES AND WINES.

LaPorte, Indiana, October 28th, 1871.

To the Editors of the Maryland Farmer:

I have had no time to write you since my last from Put-in-Bay. From there I went to Cleveland, where the Ohio State Fair was held. Being only interested in grapes and vineyards my attention was directed entirely to them. Not having thus far seen any Concords coming up to my own, as I thought, I must acknowledge I was rather beaten in Cleveland. In fact, such a harvest of grapes as was produced the last season must not be expected again for some time to come. The vines were really overloaded, and the bunches uncommonly large.—But the little pest, the Tripp, and the early frosts have, to a great extent, blasted the hopes of the vintners. The leaves having been destroyed the grapes could not come to full maturity, particularly the later varieties. A great deal of wine has been made along the lake shores, but very little of an excellent quality.

From Cleveland I went to Buffalo, passing through the grape regions, particularly in the neighborhood of Brocton, N. Y. But all the vineyards had the appearance of the leaves having been scalded and then dried up. From Buffalo I went to Lockport. In this neighborhood are a great many vineyards, mostly Concords and Delawares, besides a good many Ionas, and some Catawbas. Mr. Babcock, the great propagator of grape roots, has most every kind of vines for the coming season, and I thought his prices very reasonable. Messrs. N. S. Ringueburg & Son have a large vineyard of Delawares, which, owing to its peculiar situation, was not injured by the frost. Messrs. R. & S. have very choice old wines on hand, which cannot be easily excelled. He is a very honest man, and well enough off to keep his wines until they are fit to be brought into market. From Lockport I went to Rochester, where the Western New York State Fair was held. Many choice samples of grapes were on exhibition. Nearly every number of Roger's Hybrids were here represented, mostly by Ellwanger & Barry. I saw here the best bunches of the Roger's Hybrids I have found anywhere; yet, what I have seen has not changed my opinion in regard to them. There is only one, No. 4, or Wilder, which I consider worthy of a place in my own vineyard, and, may be, a few of the No. 1, or Goethe, on account of being a white grape, but by no means a very good one. It seems they inherited most all the imperfections of their native parents, and the diseases of their foreign parents, transplanted into our country. know I will be opposed by those who have plants for sale, but I cannot help it—it is my candid opinion. If some of our Maryland vintners should like to plant any of the Roger's Hybrids, I would advise them to plant but very few at first, as a trial.

From Rochester I went to Syracuse. The Radical Convention being held there, good rooms at the hotels could not be secured, so I left for Hammondsport, where the great Fair of the New York State Grape Growers' Association, in connection with the Pleasant Valley Grape Growers' Association was being held. I should have been pleased if all the grape growers of Maryland and adjoining counties of Virginia could have been with me to witness the display. What a sight! To behold all the varieties of all the seedlings and hybrids of our country, in the greatest perfection collected here together. I can tell you, sirs, it was grand, and those who never get away from home, and know only grape growing from the sphere of their own neighborhood can have no idoa of the extent of grape growing in this country—of the many varieties, and the perfection of the fruit, as well as of making both still wines and champagnes. It looked to me as if the importers and dealers in foreign wines will soon have to "hang up their fiddle and their bow." A paper in the interest of the importers of foreign wines in New York, advised the wine growers of this country against favoring a high tariff, as the American wines were excellent to improve foreign kinds. Why not leave those excellent American wines pure, and leave the vile stuff in the old country altogether. I stated in a former article the effect grape growing had on the manners and feelings of the people. The display at this Fair proved the truth of what I then stated.

We were pleased at the absence at this fair of all pomp or show of the officers; governors with their aid-de-camps, no fast horses or fat steers, and there were no decanters and bottles of whisky and brandy in private rooms, nor swearing and cursing, nor drunkenness whatever, that we so often witness at other fairs. Everybody was pleasant, cheerful and hospitable. The ladies partook of the spirit of the men. There was an eating room attached to the fair ground, where the wives and daughters waited on those who wished to satisfy the inner man, but without whisky and brandy. In fact, everybody was cheerful, polite and happy. Everybody was willing and ready to impart such knowledge as he possessed on grape growing, and every lady anxious to show attention to strangers. We were conducted into the Urbana Wine Company's cellar, where hundreds of thousands of bottles of Champagne were stowed away. The next day I was conducted by one of the officers, Mr. Younglove, to the cellar of the Pleasant Valley Wine Company, which is

known all over the United States for its excellent still wines and champagnes. I understood that over twenty thousand acres of vineyards were represented at this Fair. To give you all the particulars of the officers, and what I saw of the New York Grape Growers' Association, would take too much space, as also to state the premiums. In my next I will speak of those varieties which are hardy, and I think, best adapted for wine and table grapes, as far as I had an opportunity to learn, and will give hints where plants can be had, for the information of the grape growers of Maryland.

Very respectfully, yours,

G. H. MITTNACHT.

Our Receipt for Curing Meat.

To one gallon of water, take one and one-half lbs. of salt, one-half lb. of sugar, one-half oz. of saltpetre, one-half oz. of potash.

In this ratio the pickle can be increased to any quantity desired. Let these be boiled together until all the dirt from the sugar raises to the top and is skimmed off. Then throw it into a tub to cool, and when *cold*, pour it over your beef or pork, to remain the usual time, say four or five weeks. The meat must be well covered with pickle, and should not be put down for at least two days after killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre, which removes all the surface-blood, &c., leaving the meat fresh and clean. Some omit boiling the pickle, and find it to answer well, though the operation of boiling purifies the pickle by throwing off the dirt always to be found in salt and sugar.

If this receipt is properly tried, it will never be abandoned. There is none that surpass it, if so good.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

FEEDING CORN AND COB MEAL.—A correspondent of the *Germantown Telegraph* does not think well of feeding "corn and cob;" whilst the "crushers" performed well, the "cows only stared at it," and the "hogs left their pens and took refuge in the woods." He thinks it "valuable as a substitute for sawdust." He says: "I have heard a great many 'book-farmers' argue in favor of grinding up the cobs with the corn, but after trying it they invariably gave up the idea that there was any food in the cobs. If any one has a desire to try the experiment, let him grind the cobs alone, and see if he can induce any of his stock to eat it. That will convince him that cobs, as food, are entirely worthless."

Never run down your opponent's goods in public. Let him do his own advertising.

USEFUL RECIPES.

DIARRHEA IN CATTLE.—The treatment must be of the simplest possible character; often a good stimulant, such as a quart or two of warm ale, with a little ginger, will restore the animal to its usual health in a few hours. Should, however, the evacuation be of an offensive characacter, or any fever or other constitutional symptoms be observed, give a gentle cathartic of linseed oil, combined with opium, viz.: Linseed oil, one pint; tincture of opium one ounce; and repeat in twelve hours if the fœces do not assume a more natural state. Should the diarrhœa still continue after the purgative has operated, astringents may be given with advantage, combined with an antacid and stomachic; for instance: powdered chalk, two ounces; powdered gentian, one ounce; powdered ginger, two drachms; powdered opium, one drachm. Mix and give in a quart of ale twice a day. The diet should be regulated by an avoidance of anything which may be thought to have brought on the disease. Good thick gruel of wheat flour may be given, the animal kept in a comfortable warm outhouse, and its comforts generally attended to.

WHITE COMB IN FOWLS.—Take lard and flowers of sulphur of equal proportions, knead well together in a pomade, and apply to the infected parts. In cases of long standing it is necessary to scrape the eruptions with a sharp knife, before applying the pomade. Repeat this operation every three days until a cure is effected. Of course the patient must be isolated, kept clean, dry and warm, and have plenty of green, though not much stimulating food.

COW LEAKING HER MILK.—We have seen it prevented by placing an India rubber ring around the teat after milking. Another remedy common with some dairymen is to milk such cows three times a day, until the muscles of the teats gain sufficient strength to hold the milk from morning until evening. Another successful and very simple way is to apply a small quantity of collodion to the end of the teat immediately after milking. This forms at once a thin, tough membrane or skin, which will prevent leakage and is easily removed before milking. It may be had at the druggists.

CONVULSIONS IN PIGS.—Convulsions occasionally accompany different diseases, but they are likely to be the effect of epilepsy. Cold water kept constantly applied to the head is essential. Also bleeding and purging, followed by low diet, perfect quiet and cooling medicines, such as nitre, 1 or 2 drachms, in the water the pigs drink. The causes of epilepsy are sometimes obscure, but indigestion and intestinal irritation from worms or sources which appear to hurry it on.

INFLAMED EYE.—Cattle are liable to suffer from apthalmia from chaff, or other foreign substances getting into their eyes. The symptoms are irritability of the eyes, watery discharges, and when the foreign substance becomes imparted in the cornea, that part becomes inflamed, and ultimately opaque. In the early stage the eye should be examined, and the foreign substance removed, which can be done by inverting the eyelids, if the substance is not visible, and removing it with a pocket-handkerchief. The results of such an accident should be treated by hot fomentations, and the occasional applications of lotion composed of a drachm of tincture of opium, to four ounces of water.

LUMPS ON HORSES KNEES.—Take one pint of turpentine; two ounces powdered cantharide; iodine and cedar oil of each two ounces. Rub on well and heat in. Apply twice a day.—*From American Stock Journal.*

The Poultry House.

HOW TO JUDGE POULTRY.

TO JUDGE THE AGE OF FOWLS.

If a hen's spur is hard, and the scales on the legs rough, she is old, whether you see her head or not, but her head will corroborate your observation. If the underbill is so stiff that you cannot bend it down, and the comb thick and rough, leave her, no matter how fat and plump, for some one less particular. A young hen has only the rudiments of spurs; the scales on the legs are smooth, glossy, and fresh colored, whatever the color may be; the claws tender and short, the nails sharp, the underbill soft, and the comb thin and smooth.

TO JUDGE THE AGE OF TURKEYS.

An old hen turkey has rough scales on the legs, callosities on the soles of the feet, and long, strong claws; a young one the reverse of all those marks. When the feathers are on, the old turkey-cock has a long tuft or beard, a young one but a sprouting one; and when they are off, the smooth scales on the leg decide the point, besides the difference in size of the wattles of the neck and in the elastic shoot upon the noose.

TO JUDGE THE AGE OF GEESE.

An old goose, when alive, is known by the rough legs, and the strength of the wings, particularly at the pinions, the thickness and strength of the bill, and the fineness of the feathers; and when plucked, by the legs, the tenderness of the skin under the wings, by the pinions and the bill and the coarseness of the skin.

TO JUDGE THE AGE OF DUCKS.

Ducks are distinguished by the same means, but there is this difference—that a duckling's bill is much longer in proportion to the breadth of its head than the old ducks.

TO JUDGE THE AGE OF PIGEONS.

A young pigeon is discovered by its pale color, smooth scales, tender, collapsed feet, and the yellow, long down interspersed among its feathers. A pigeon that can fly has always red colored legs and no down, and is then too old for use.—*Rural New Yorker.*

What Fowls to Keep.

There is a wide difference of opinion among poultry fanciers and farmers, as to what breeds of fowls are most desirable. Of course the decision of this question depends on the purpose for which they are kept, as the best layers do not always furnish the best meat. But on this point a Committee appointed by the Farmer's Club, of New York, to visit the Poultry Show, and report what breeds of Poultry to keep, made a report to the Club, of which the following is the substance:

What breeds are at present most prized? A. Different breeders disagree, but it is at present thought that the majority prefer the *Houdans*, dark and light *Brahmahs*, and *Leghorns*.

Are pure breeds preferable? A. The pure breeds are better than half-breeds, as layers, but not quite so hardy.

What fowls are best layers? A. *White Leghorns* and *Aylesbury Ducks*.

Which grows fastest and make most dressed meat? A. *Creve Cœurs*, dark Brahmahs, or Aylesbury Ducks.

For eggs and flesh both, which are best? A. *Houdans*.

For flavor and tenderness of flesh, which breeds excel? A. *Houdans*, *Dorking* or *Game*, and *Rouen* ducks.

For mothers which have you found best? A. *Game* and *Dorking*.

Is the Dorking hardy in this climate? A. No.

What feeding and range do you recommend? A. Ground feed, in the morning, mixed with warm water, whole grain at night, a little meat occasionally in the winter, with some broken oyster shell, all the range possible, and a good, warm house, are all that is necessary.

What is your opinion of poultry-raising on a large scale? A. It can be done with great profit if the grounds and houses are large enough. Every hundred fowls should have at least an acre.

The Egg-laying Limit of Fowls.

It is claimed by some that the ovarium of a fowl is composed of 600 ovula or eggs. Therefore a hen during the whole of her life cannot possibly lay more than 600, which is a natural course, and distributed over nine years, in the following proportion: First year after birth, 15 to 20; second, 100 to 120; third, 120 to 135; fourth, 100 to 115; fifth, 60 to 80; sixth, 50 to 60; seventh, 35 to 40; eighth, 15 to 20; ninth, 1 to 10.

It follows that it would not be profitable to keep them after their fourth year, as their produce would not pay for their keeping, except when they are of a valuable breed.

On the contrary, it is held by others as not true that there is a certain amount of eggs, and that this number exhausted, no more can be expected; but that the secretion lessens as old age comes on, and latterly the hen fails to have sufficient force to carry forward the process of egg formation.

The Dairy.

CHURNING.

A. W. Cheever, in the *Germantown Telegraph*, gives the following on churning:

To avoid trouble with the churning when the cold weather comes on, the cream should either be kept in a warm room, or what is just as well, warmed up over a stove, stirring constantly, at least twelve hours before being churned. In warm weather cream gets sour after being kept a few days, and becomes thick and heavy. In cold weather it is thin and sweet, and the floats of the churn pass among the butter globules with very little resistance.

Warming the cream up to a temperature of about seventy degrees, several hours before churning, causes it to be sour and thicken up, after which it may be churned just as quickly as cream in warm weather.

Of course it must be at the right temperature while being churned. About sixty to seventy degrees is a proper temperature, remembering that in summer it is growing warmer while being churned, and in winter colder, unless the work is done in a warm room.

A thermometer is one of the most important tools in a dairy-room. It should be graded as high as 212 degrees, so that it may be washed in hot water to remove the cream after using.

If a thermometer were used when preparing water for scalding hogs, there might be less complaining of "poor scalds." The water should be at about 170 degrees, as far as my experience goes, although some allowance must be made for the size and age of the animal as well as the temperature of the water at the time.

Milk Statistics.—Sixteen quarts of pure milk are required to make one pound of butter, and ten quarts to make one pound of cheese. When butter is forty cents per pound and cheese eleven cents, one pound of butter equals in value sixteen quarts of milk and returns two and one-half cents per quart to the dairyman. But one pound of cheese from ten quarts of milk only gives him one and one eleventh cents per quart for the milk.

Hogs that are much confined, and cannot get to the earth, will frequently be benefited by having a little charcoal, soft brick bats, or soft rotten wood, thrown into them; and a trifling quantity of brimstone occasionally, mixed in their food, is an excellent thing.

If you don't mean to mind your own business, it will not pay to advertise.

BUTTER, CHEESE, AND MILK.

It requires about sixteen quarts of good milk to make one pound of butter, and ten quarts to make one pound of cheese.

It is often a question with farmers, how they can best dispose of their dairy products. If we consider that the pork produced from the buttermilk or whey pays for the extra trouble involved in the care of butter and cheese, the account will stand about as follows, when butter is selling at forty cents a pound, cheese at eleven cents, and milk at three cents per quart:

One pound of butter=16 quarts of milk=40 cts., or 2½ cents per quart for milk.

One pound of cheese=10 quarts of milk=11 cts., or, 1 1-11 cents per quart for milk.

In order to pay three cents per quart for the milk consumed, the pound of cheese would have to be sold at thirty cents, or one pound of butter at fifty cents.

In the neighborhood of large cities milk will command even better prices than the above, as it is frequently worth five cents per quart; this would bring the value of the pound of butter up to eighty cents and the cheese to fifty cents.

A farmer can easily judge from these figures which is the most profitable business for him, the prices being in all cases those which can be obtained on the farm. If the articles are to be delivered, the ratios may be somewhat changed.

For a person living a long distance from market, or where the means of communication are slow and uncertain, cheese will most likely be the only available means of reaching a market. For those living nearer to market, with good facilities for reaching it, butter is the best paying product.

In order to make milk pay the market must not be over two or three hours' distance from the farm. Many railroads, however, equalize the rates of freight on milk, charging all their customers the same price, whether they live ten or thirty miles from the city.—*Journal of Chemistry.*

Winter Grain, etc., in Pennsylvania.—The editor of the *Germantown Telegraph* thus speaks of the winter grain and pastures in the old Keystone State: The winter grain all over this State, we are advised, never looked better at this season in any former year than now. It is up even and strong, and has had nothing to interfere with its steady growth. And so with the pastures. In this section they were never better, and will have the best effect in helping the cattle through the winter on the short crop of dry fodder. The farmer, too, has had delightful weather for harvesting the corn and potato crops; and there is less rot in the latter than for many years.

The Florist.

FLORICULTURE---FOR DECEMBER.

PREPARED BY JOHN FEAST, Florist, Baltimore.

Cold weather having set in it is presumed that all plants needing protection have been assigned their winter quarters, either in cold frames or in the house—if in frames they will need to be well covered with straw mats or shutters, to keep out the frost, and on fine days give plenty of air, to prevent dampness, which is very apt to injure most plants, such as *Carnations*, and other soft wooded kinds.—Be careful and not give them too much water. Keep rather dry than otherwise.

Camelias will now begin to bloom, and will require to be regularly watered. Syringing once or twice a week will benefit them in good weather. Keep them neatly tied up.

Pansies, large enough to pot, should be encouraged to early bloom; give them a little liquid water occasionally to stimulate their growth, and repot as often as they require it.

Japan Lillys should now be put away until February, when they may be potted again for the next season. Keep the roots dry until that time.

Chrysanthemums done blooming may be put in a cold frame during winter.

Pelargoniums.—Keep a little dry and cool for a month or two, then encourage them by repotting and frequent watering as they show signs of growth.

Azaleas.—Water sparingly at this season; be careful and take off all the foliage showing signs of rust, and examine the plants, and if affected with thrip, wash with a solution of whale oil soap.

Cactuses will require but little water at this season, except the truncata, which blooms at this time of the year.

Roses in Pots may be removed if they require it, and cuttings put in for young stock. Keep them cool through the winter, but fully protected; they will root much better than on bottom heat.

Greenhouse Bulbs, as Oxalises, Babiana, Tritelias, Ixias, Ornithogalums, and those winter flowering should have sufficient watering—place them near the glass, and give plenty of light and air when opportunity offers.

Chinese Primroses will need pots to encourage the plants to grow; as they show signs of bloom care must be taken not to water over the flowers, which causes many to damp off—be careful not to give too much water.

Mignonette and such, will now be coming in flower; give a watering of guano, or something to encourage the growth, and let them have plenty of room, let them be neatly tied up to protect the bloom.

The propagating of many plants may be done at this time, if a young stock is wanted; arranged with bottom heat or without, which takes a longer time to strike root, but with more success, which amply pays for the time occupied. But most everyone is acquainted more or less, with the mode of propagating the more common plants. The tender kinds of plants require to be kept at a higher temperature than hardy ones, but in general over done, especially through the night; for instance, the thermometer will range through the day 70 to 80°; and for fear of suffering will be raised through the night perhaps much higher, when it should be lowered; this keeps the plants continually excited.—Plants, like ourselves, require repose, and why not let them have it. Study nature, and plants will be kept in better health, finer bloom, longer in flower and generally less troublesome.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

From Hoopes Bro. & Thomas, Cherryhill Nurseries, West Chester, Pa., their Descriptive catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Flowering Shrubs, Vines, Roses, &c., cultivated and for sale at their nurseries.

From Smith, Clark & Powell, Syracuse, N. York, their descriptive catalogue of Fruit Trees, Vines and plants.—Also catalogue of Ornamental trees, Shrubs, Vines, Roses.

From Gould Brothers, Rochester, N. Y., their Descriptive catalogue of Select Fruit Trees, &c.—also Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Bulbs, &c. Also a beautiful colored engraving of the Foster Peach.

From John S. Collins, Moorestown, N. J., his wholesale price list of Small Fruit Plants, &c., for fall and spring.

KURTZ'S FARMER'S ALMANAC FOR 1872.—This is a very accurately compiled Almanac and is annually issued by T. Newton Kurtz, 151 W. Pratt street, Baltimore, publisher, bookseller and stationer. It contains the chronological cycles, movable feasts, eclipses 1872, Herschell's weather table, observations, United States Government, a large amount of useful reading, the times of the sittings of the Courts of Maryland, West and East Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

BUILDING FELT.—Our readers who have in contemplation the erection of houses or other buildings, will be interested in the advertisement of Mr. C. J. Fay, Camden, N. J. This Felt is said to be water proof, to contain no tar, and to be an excellent covering for both the outside and inside of buildings. It may be used as a substitute for plaster on walls and ceilings. Mr. Fay also manufactures floor carpetings of Felt, which for durability and cheapness he claims to be much superior to oil cloth of the same cost.—These carpets are painted in various neat designs by hand. Circulars containing full particulars sent on application. If samples of all the different grades of Felt and carpeting are wanted send two stamps.—*Phrenological Journal.*

Deserved Reward.

Now that the season for agricultural Fairs has passed, our enterprising townsmen, Messrs. Porter Blanchard's Sons, are gathering their annual harvest of official acknowledgments of the superior merits of their Blanchard Churn, in the shape of medals, diplomas, etc., which have been awarded them all over the country, wherever their Churns have been on exhibition in competition with other kinds. The best dairymen in the country pay them the highest possible compliment of using them in their own dairies; and it is very generally conceded that, for simplicity, effectiveness, durability, cheapness, and beauty, they are "the best." A most tasteful diploma from St. Louis, and a beautiful bronze medal from the great Industrial Exposition at Cincinnati, may be seen on exhibition in the window of Robinson & Tilson, Concord, N. H.—*Independent Statesman.*

Ladies Department.

OCTOBER.

BY BENJAMIN F. TAYLOR.

I.

I would not die in May:
When orchards drift with blossoms of white like billows on the deep,
And whispers from the lilac bush across my senses sweep,
That 'minds me of a girl I knew when life was always May,
Who filled my nights with starry hopes that faded out by day—
When time is full of wedding-days, and nests of robins brim,
Till overflows their wicker sides the old familiar hymn—
The window brightens like an eye, the cottage door swings wide,
The boys come homeward one by one and bring a smiling bride,
The fire-fly shows her signal light, the partridge beats his drum,
And all the world gives promise of something sweet to come—
Ah, who would die on such a day?
Ah, who would die in May?

II.

I would not die in June:
When looking up with faces quaint the pansies grace the sod,
And looking down, the willows see their doubles in the flood—
When blessing God we breathe again the roses in the air,
And lilies light the fields along with their immortal wear,
As once they lit the Sermon of the Saviour on the Mount,
And glorified the story they evermore recount—
Through pastures blue the flocks of God go trooping one by one,
And turn their golden fleeces round to dry them in the sun—
When calm as Galilee the grain is rippling in the wind
And nothing dying anywhere but something that has sinned—
Ah, who would die in life's own noon?
Ah, who would die in June?

III.

But when October comes,
And poplars drift their leafage down in flakes of gold below,
And beeches burn like twilight fires that used to tell of snow,
And maples bursting into flame set all the hills a fire,
And summer from the evergreens sees Paradise draw nigher—
A thousand sunsets all at once distil like Hermon's dew
And linger on the waiting woods and stain them through and through,
As if all earth had blossomed out, one grand Corinthian flower,
To crown Time's graceful capital for just one gorgeous hour.
They strike their colors to the king of all the stately throng—
He comes in pomp, October! To him all times belong:
The frost is on his sandals but the flush is on his cheeks,
September sheaves are in his arms, June voices which he speaks—
The elms lift bravely like a torch within a Grecian hand,
See where they light the monarch on through all the splendid land!
The sun puts on a human look behind the hazy fold,
The mid-year moon of silver is struck anew in gold,
In honor of the very day that Moses saw of old;
For in the Burning Bush that blazed as quenchless as a sword,
The old Lieutenant first beheld October and the Lord!
Ah, then, October let it be—
I'll claim my dying day from thee!

A WORD TO THE GIRLS.

One of our religious papers, in a recent article addressed to the young ladies, gave them some excellent advice as well as hard hits, saying, "Your bodies are the most beautiful of God's creations. In the Continental galleries I always saw groups of people gathered about the pictures of women. It was not passion; the gazers were just as likely to be women as men; it was because of the wondrous beauty of a woman's body." Commenting on this fact, the writer says further, on imagining a lady passing his range of vision, "Now, isn't that a pretty looking object? A big hump, three big lumps, a wilderness of crimps and frills, a hauling up of the dress here and there, an enormous, hideous mass of false hair or bark, piled on top of her head, surmounted by a little flat, ornamented with bits of lace, birds tails, &c. The shop windows tell us all day long of the paddings, whalebones and steel springs which occupy most of the space within that outside rig. In the name of all the simple, sweet sentiments which cluster about a home, I would ask, how is a man to fall in love with such a piece of compound, double twisted, touch-me-not artificiality as you see in that rigging curiosity?" With a wasp-waist, squeezing lungs, stomach, liver, and other vital organs, into one-half their natural size, and with that long trail dragging on the ground, he wonders how any man of judgment, who knows that life is made up of use, of sense, of service, of work, can take such a partner. He must be desperate, indeed, to unite himself for life with such a fettered, half-breathing ornament. He further tells the girls that the bad dress, added to the lack of exercise that is so general, lead to bad health, and men wisely fear that instead of a helpmate, they would get an invalid to take care of. This bad health in women, just as in men, makes the mind as well as the body feeble and effeminate, leaving them no power, no magnetism. He tells those who giggle so freely, and use large adjectives, such as "splendid," &c., that it deceives no one unless as silly as they are, only showing others that they are superficial, affected, silly, and have none of that womanly strength and warmth which are so assuring and attractive to man. He tells them they have become so childish and weak minded, that they refuse to wear decent names even, and insist upon baby names. Instead of Helen, Margaret, Elizabeth, they affect Nellie, Maggie and Lizzie. When brothers were babies they were called Bobby, Dicky and Johnny; but when they grow up to manhood, no more of that silly trash, if you please. But he knows a woman of twenty five years, and she is as big as both his grandmothers put together, who insists on being called Kitty, and her real name is Catherine; and although her brain is big enough to conduct affairs of state, she does nothing but giggle, cover up her face with her fan, and exclaim, once in four minutes, "Don't, now! you are real mean." He wants to know how a man can propose a life partnership to so silly a goose. He denies the commen remark that most sensible men are crazy after butterflies of fashion. Occasionally a man of brilliant success may marry a silly, weak women; but nine times in twenty, sensible men choose sensible women. In company they are very likely to chat and toy with those over-dressed and forward creatures, but they don't ask them to go to the altar with them. Girls must also remember that among the young men in the matrimonial market, only a small number are independently rich, and in America, such very rarely make good husbands. But the number of those who are just beginning in life, who are filled with noble ambition, who have a future, is very large. But such will not, they dare not, ask girls to join them, while they see them so idle, silly, and so gorgeously attired. Let them see that girls are industrious, economical, with habits that secure health and strength; that their life is earnest and real; that they would be willing to begin at the beginning in life with the man you would consent to marry—then marriage will become the rule, and not, as now, the exception.

HOMEKEEPERS AND HOUSEKEEPERS.

It is a well known fact that many persons have very fine and orderly houses, but have after all no home, for

"Home's not merely four square walls,
Though with pictures hung and gilded;
Home is where affection calls,
Filled with shrines the heart had builded."

A homekeeper is one who makes all the ways and conveniences of the house conduce to the comfort of the inmates. She will allow the members of her household to build each a shrine, and will treat it as sacred, because it is a shrine to the one who has builded it. The daughter is not called an idle thing because she wishes to know her tune, and gaze wistfully toward the horizon; nor is the son reproved if he shall slam around and wish he was——, anywhere but idling at home. Gradually the housekeeper will quietly aid the first to search for beauty this side the horizon, and that boy will find a vent for his activity without seeing he was gently led to it by an overseeing love. A house that is blessed with a housekeeper has an influence that even strangers feel. They receive that rest which comes from the "fitting of self to its sphere." The order of the house may be mechanical like that of a loom or a harp; but like these mechanical things it conduces to results, and justifies itself by tissues of more than silken fineness, and music sweeter than that of the spheres. If there is a housekeeper the housework is not in utter confusion, if perchance one rises an hour too late. Servants are not expected to perform miracles, and keep coffee and toast hot and fresh for an hour. A breakfast, such as late risers should expect, is eaten in peace, not in a flurry of excuses for not having a meal that it was impossible to furnish without incovenience and discord in the kitchen for the whole day. It is foolish to attempt to keep a restaurant with only the arrangements suited to a small family. The peace of many a family is distroyed by attempting impossibilities. The breakfast of the late riser need not have an added tirade against servants. Realizing that the guest regrets his tardiness, she lets the cold breakfast suffice, but does what she can by word, look, and act to make the best of what cannot be helped, and really so calls out the gratitude of the late riser, that ever after that breakfast is a bright and pleasant memory; for he feared he was a nuisance, yet without direct word he felt that his act did not discommode the arrangements of the house. His best thought was called out, and that the house will stand to him in after life as a home for "there is where the heart can bloom." Housekeeping can be well done by any energetic woman. Housekeeping requires that the woman's heart and wisdom be greater than her house, and that she keeps the house, only that in it, life can be lived with love and truthfulness.—*Golden Age.*

DRESS PLAINLY, GIRLS.—An old man, who knows what he is talking about, says: "Girls, let me tell you a stubborn truth. No young woman ever looked so well to sensible men, as when dressed in a plain, neat, modest attire, without a single ornament about her person. She looks then as though she possessed worth in herself, and needed no artificial rigging to enchance her value. If a young woman would spend as much time in cultivating kindness, meekness, mercy, and other good qualities, as most of them do in extra dress and ornament, to increase their personal charms, she would, at a glance, be known among a thousand—her character would be read in her countenance, and there her beauty will be found."

DOMESTIC RECIPES.

A PORK PUDDING.—One cup chopped pork, 1 cup of molasses with 1 teaspoon soda stirred into it, 1 cup of raisins, ¼ cup of sweet milk, all kinds of spices, flour enough to make a stiff batter; steam four hours. For a sauce take 1 cup of white sugar, put into one cup of boiling water and pour upon two well beaten eggs, flavor with lemon and add a small piece of butter.

CREAM PIE.—For two pies take 1 cup white sugar, 1 egg, ¾ cup sour milk, ¾ cup butter, ½ teaspoon soda, flour enough for a batter, bake on tin plates. When done have the cream ready made as follows. Heat a pint of milk scalding hot. Beat 2 eggs, 2 spoonfulls of flour and 4 of sugar together and stir it into the milk uutil it thickens; flavor with lemon and add a little salt; pour it on to the lower crust and cover it with the upper one; frost if you choose.

CRULLERS.—Two pounds of flour, a quarter of a pound of butter, three quarters of a pound of sugar, a little allspice, nutmeg and cinnamon to taste, a little cream and six eggs; fry in boiling lard.

DOUGHNUTS.—Seven eggs well beaten, three cups of milk, one teaspoonful of pearlash, as much flour as will rub easily; cinnamon to taste; fry in boiling lard.

BOSTON GINGERBREAD.—One pound of butter, one pint molasses, one pound of flour, six eggs, one gill of cold water, one teaspoon soda, one quart of fruit—citron and raisins.

DROP CAKE FOR BREAKFAST.—Half-pint of milk, four eggs, one pound flour, and add a little salt.

WINTER DESSERT.—One quart of milk, six eggs, reserving the whites of two, which beat to a stiff froth, and when the milk boils, drop in in spoonfulls; in a minute or two remove carefully to a plate; after beating the eggs light pour the boiling milk slowly into the egg, stirring the egg quickly the while; sweeten it and place over the fire, stirring it all the time until it simmers—it must not boil. If it should curdle pour it immediately into another pan and stir until cool.

Place sponge cake, moistened with Madeira wine (and on which preserved strawberries or other fruit has been spread,) in the bottom or sides of a glass, or China bowl, and when the custard is cool, flavor with vanilla, and pour into the bowl, placing the white balls carefully on top; then surround the bowl with ice, or stand it in cold water until required. —*Germantown Telegraph.*

FOR A CORN.—Put two or three small mother-of pearl buttons—commonly called pearl buttoms—in any small glass or crockery vessel, squeeze over them a tablespoon or two of lemon juice. Let it stand all night. There will be a peculiar film cover the top; *take this* and apply to the corn; let it remain for twelve hours. Should one application not be enough, repeat, and the corn can be easily removed. It is the most certain thing I have ever used for this purpose.

TO REMOVE WARTS.—Make a strong steep, from red oak bark, in hot water; when cold, apply as convenient, the oftener the better. In a few days the wart will disappear. I have also found the juice of the common milk-weed, put repeatedly on the wart for a day or two, to completely remove them.

MIXTURE FOR CLEANING SILVER.—Common prepared chalk, or whiting, ½ lb; gum camphor, ¼ oz; aqua ammonia and alcohol, of each, 1 oz.: benzine, 3 oz.; mix well together, and apply with a soft sponge, and allow it to dry before polishing.

The Old "Maltby House" Rejuvenated.

This old favorite of our country and city friends has recently undergone a very radical change, in divers alterations and additions, which now make the "Maltby" one of the most capacious and well appointed hotels in Baltimore. In its new garb it looks like a young beauty in its bridal dress, and now elicits the admiration of new and old friends. The first floor or entrance has been completely reconstructed and enlarged, beautifully frescoed and laid with mosaic flooring, which adds much to its appearance and comfort.

The clerk's office, opposite the main entrance, has also been elaborately fitted up, and is ably presided over by our old and well known friend John P. Ballard, recently of the Ballard House, Richmond, Va., and whose reputation as a first-class hotel man is known to the entire travelling public—the universal verdict is, "that he is a man who knows how to keep a hotel," and make the guests feel happy and home-like.

The main dining room has also been refitted and embellished, and the ladies old ordinary has been most elegantly fitted up as a restaurant, and is unequalled by any similar institution in our city. In addition to a large marble top lunch counter, there are side tables elegantly equipped and ample for the accommodation of seventy or eighty persons at one time. At the end of the lunch counter are the tea and coffee arrangements, which are heated by steam, and are highly ornamental. This department is under the special supervision of Mr. R. S. Parker, who is well known to the public. Adjoining the restaurant is the cashier's quarters, and an elegantly arranged cigar stand, over which presides our friend Mr. Charles J. Kennedy, with his pleasant genial face and bland manners.

On the second floor of the hotel are an elegant suit of parlors, all of which have been superbly refurnished, and the floors laid with Axminster and royal velvet carpets, and are certainly equal to anything of the kind in Baltimore. All the upper stories have also been newly equipped in the most comfortable manner.

The old building has been mounted by a very beautiful architectural adornment in the shape of a Mansard roof, and the windows on the entire front have been graced with new and elaborate cornice, and the entire front painted white, which gives the time-honored structure a really bewitching and loveable appearance. If you do not believe what we say, and have any doubts as to the capacity of Major C. R. Hogan, the gentlemanly proprietor, for conducting an establishment of that kind, why stop there when next you visit the city, and if you are not well pleased have the bill presented to our office, which is immediately opposite, and we will cheerfully settle it out of our own exchequer. With all these inducements—an elegant house, an experienced proprietor, an able corps of generals, and polite and attentive waiters, the "Old Maltby" has started on a career to win fresh laurels and make a host of new friends.

On the evening of Thursday, Nov. 16th, Mr. Hogan, to celebrate the new epoch in the history of this favorite house, gave an entertainment to a number of his friends and the press generally. Of course, the dinner was of the highest order and magnificently done up, the bill of fare embracing all the choice delicacies of the season, and the wine—well!——

Among the guests were our distinguished friend the Hon. James T. Earle, Senator of Maryland from Queen Ann's, Wm. F. McKewen, Clerk of Court, Col. Wallace, James S. Murphy, J. S. Woodside, Col. E. T. Joyce, Dr. Wm. H. Cole of the *Evening Journal*, Frederick Young and Thomas Sultzer of the *Sun*, Thomas Hooper and George Savage of the *Baltimore Gazette*, DeWitt C. Shock of the *Baltimore American*, Wm. P. Hamilton of the *German Correspondent*, Col. S. Sands Mills of the *Maryland Farmer*, James Wood of the *Saturday Night*, and others. After the removal of the cloth, speeches were made by Senator Earle, Dr. Cole, Col. Mills, George Savage, W. P. Hamilton, Frederick Young, Col. Joyce and others, all of whom gave expression to their admiration of the enterprise of the proprietor in keeping pace with the progress of the times, and wishing him that success which his efforts so richly deserve.

"The Prairie Farmer."

This popular and stirling weekly journal for the Farm, Orchard and Fireside, resumed its old size on November 4th, last. The restored *Farmer* in its typography as well as its literature is fully up to its past high standard. The wonderful enterprize displayed by the Prairie Company since the disastrous fire in Chicago, which recently destroyed so great a portion of that flourishing city, and whose establishment was entirely demolished, deserves success. Not an issue has been missed in consequence of the fire, and they are prepared to keep it up to its former excellence as an agricultural paper. It is to be hoped its former friends will all renew their subscriptions and thousands of new ones be added to its roll. The new office is at 674 Walsh avenue, Chicago—price per annum $2. Now is the time to renew and subscribe for 1872—the balance of this year is given to all new subscribers. Do it!

Southern Cultivator.—Our readers, in making out their lists of papers for another year, should not fail to include in it the old, firmly established Southern Cultivator, which for thirty years has labored zealously for Southern agriculture. Its pages are filled with contributions from practical, sensible farmers from all the Southern States, whilst its editors—familiar with science—give everything of value which science can contribute. *Practice and science* is its motto. Wm. & W. L. Jones, Athens, Ga. $2.00 a year.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Briggs & Brothers	*Flower and Vegetable Seeds.*
Dick & Fitzgerald	*Trunkfull of Fun.*
Hopkins & Wilcox	*American Rural Home.*
Dr. Sherman	*Rupture Cured.*
James Vick	*Floral Guide for* 1872.
P. K. Dederick & Co	*Hay Presses, &c.*
Collins, Downs & Co	*Seed Growers, &c.*
Geo. B. Hickman	*Premium Pigs.*
M. W. Hazlewood	*"Old Dominion Magazine."*
Adams & Co	*A Christmas Pudding.*
I. I. Hite	*Eradicating Rats.*
A. M. Purdy	*Fruit Recorder.*
Wm. Parry	*Herstine Raspberry.*
R. Sinclair & Co	*Agricultural Implements & Seeds.*
E. Whitman & Sons	*New Catalogue, Potash, &c.*
Pheron Cowles	*Light Brahmas.*
A. H. Bartlett & Son	*Bartletts Hemmers.*
C. B. Rogers	*Field and Garden Seeds.*

Punctuality in engagemen's is as necessary to the agriculturist as it is to the merchant.

Deep plowing greatly improves the productive powers of every variety of soil that is not wet.

Subsoiling sound land that is not wet, is eminently conducive to increased production.

Always provide an equivalent for the substance carried off the land to the products grown thereon.

Hygienic.

REMEDY FOR SORE NIPPLES.

The following remedies we glean from the correspondents of the *Rural New Yorker:*

"Some of my friends have used the following with good success: One teasponful of beeswax, one of gum camphor, one of lard, one of fresh butter, one of spearmint—the extract of the latter is best, but the herb will answer, only more should be used. Simmer the whole together, spread upon some thick cloth or thin, soft leather, and apply."

"I will send my recipe, which I consider excellent: A large handful of sweet apple tree bark, a handful of sage leaves, one handful of rose leaves, (either fresh or dried;) boil all together, strain, then add a piece of borax the size of a hickory nut; then simmer down with fresh butter or sweet cream. Use as an ointment."

"Take the yolks of two eggs, put them in a spider, set them before the fire and let them roast until they are brown; then anoint the nipples with the resulting grease. It is a sure cure. For a caked breast spread and apply a plaster of beeswax."

"I will tell you what helped me. It was sage simmered in lard and applied often, and as warm as can be borne.—I have also heard fresh cow manure recommended."

"Sore nipples or fever cake in the breast can be relieved by applying a weazel skin thereto."

"A plaster made after the following recipe I believe to be an infallible cure: Take ripe raw tomatoes, pare and cut them up; then stir in flour enough to make a stiff dough. Roll and work it with the hands until it becomes very smooth. Spread a thin plaster and apply it to the affected part with a cloth over it, changing the dry plasters for fresh ones as often as necessary. This keeps up a constant perspiration, which is what is needed. If you cannot get tomatoes, a dough made with cold water and flour will answer. I know this remedy to be good, for I have used it three different times, and it has never failed.—Sometimes it will take several days for the cake to wear away, but it will finally disappear."

Caked Breasts.

I have seen many remedies given for caked and swelled breasts. I think none as good as the one I give. It is better than all the liniments ever made. It is nothing but *fish oil.* The breast should be bathed well with it when there is any fever or pain at any time during nursing; use frequently and I will warrant a cure. It is equally as good for cow's udders.

"Take one ounce of pulverized resin, one ounce castile soap shaved fine, and one ounce brown sugar, boiled in one pint of sweet milk until it becomes thick enough to lay on a cloth. Place it on the breast either cold or warm. I prepare it warm. I have used this poultice with success several times, and also have seen it tried by others. Stir all the time while boiling, to prevent it from sticking to the vessel it is being boiled in."

Remedy for Ear-ache.—My wife was once suffering intense pain from ear-ache caused by a tumor inside, and after our remedies all failed to give relief, I called in a neighbor, who poured vinegar upon a hot brick, and with a funnel conducted the steam into the ear. Relief was quick and permanent.

First Book of Botany. Designed to cultivate the observing powers of Children—By Eliza A. Youmans. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Price $1.

From the publishers we have received a copy of Miss Youmans' First Book of Botany, which has met with the approval of a great number of Professors and Superintendants of Schools and Colleges, as also a favorable reception from the press generally. This book claims superiority over all others for beginners in this study in several important respects. It lays the foundation of the science in the only way it can be properly done, by providing for the direct and constant study of plants themselves. This is secured by the schedule method of Prof. Renslow, which is here first simplified and carried out for the use of beginners. It is numerously illustrated.

The Alderney and Guernsey Cow: Its nature and management. By Edward Philip Parsons Fowler, of Jersey. Philadelphia: J. M. Stoddart & Co. Price 25 cents.

A long existing want of information on this new popular subject, will be here found supplied, written by this eminant breeder and dealer, with the advantages of many years experience, it cannot fail to prove invaluable to all interested in the subject.

Atwood's Country and Suburban Houses. Illustrated with 150 engravings. By Daniel T. Atwood. New York: Orange Judd & Co. Price $1.50.

We are in receipt of a copy of this valuable treatises on country houses, and commend it to all interested in the structure of suburban and country houses. It embraces plans, with details, for houses, cottages, barns, stables, churches, bowling alleys, &c. &c., and will be found a useful auxiliary to every man's library. Send $1.50 to O. Judd & Co., New York for a copy.

Transactions of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society.—We have received, through the kind attention of J. W. Hoyt, Secretary of the Society, the report for 1870, of its transactions. In addition to the tabular abstracts of the reports of county Agricultural Societies, special reports on the Industry of Counties, &c., it also contains a very comprehensive essay on American Butter Factories, and Butter Manufactures, by X. A. Willard, with numerous illustrations—Essay on Underdraining, how to construct them, by Eli Stilson—Horticulture for Farmers—Profits of Bee keeping in Wisconsin—Bread making—Colorado Potato Bug—Cultivation of Corn—The coming Hog—Farm labor; &c. Also address delivered before the Society, with a full report on the Annual Exhibition. It is a highly interesting volume, for the compilation of which the worthy Secretary is entitled to very great credit.

Beautiful Snow, and Other Poems. *A New and Enlarged Edition,* by J. W. Watson, is in press and will be published in a few days by T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia. In issuing the present new and enlarged edition, several other Poems written by Mr. Watson have been added to it, viz.: "The Kiss in the Street," "I would that She were Dead," "What I Saw," "Please Help the Blind," "Somewhere to Go," and "Swinging in the Dance" The poem which lends its name to the book, "Beautiful Snow," treats a well worn subject with originality and feeling at once delicate and intense. The despair of the wretched outcast, as she watches the falling of the pure, beautiful, yet cold and unfeeling snow, and remembers that she was once as fair and pure, is depicted with true artistic effect. All the other poems in "Beautiful Snow" possess great interest, and display a lively and pleasant fancy, as well as a genuine, hearty sympathy with all the joys and sorrows of humanity. They will take strong hold of the heart and memory, and will live and last because they touch many chords of human sympathy. It will be published in one large octavo volume, printed on the finest tinted plate paper, and bound in morocco cloth, with gilt top and side, and beveled boards. Price, Two Dollars, and will be for sale by all booksellers, or copies will be sent by mail to any one, free of postage, by the Publishers, on receipt of price.

BALTIMORE MARKETS--Dec 4.

Prepared for the "Maryland Farmer" by **GILLMORE & SON,** Produce Commission Merchants, 159 W. Pratt st.

[*Unless when otherwise specified the prices are wholesale.*]

ASHES.—Pots. $9@$9.25.

BEESWAX.—30@32 cts.

BUTTER.—Receipts of Roll increasing; Choice selling at 26@27 cts.; Prime, 23@to 25 cts.; Good, 19@21 cts.; Fair 15@17 cts.; Common, 11@13 cts., and Grease, 8@9 cts.

COFFEE.—Market quiet; Ordinary, 19 cts.; Fair, 19½; Good, 19¾ cts.; Prime, 20½ cts.; Choice, 21 cts.; Fancy, 21 cts. *Gold duty paid.*

COTTON.—Fair enquiry.

	Upland.	Gulf.
Ordinary	17 cents.	17½ cents.
Good ordinary	17¾	18
Low middling	18½	18¾
Middling	19	19½
Good Middling	20	20½

EGGS.—Market active; Fresh, 36 cts.; Pickled, 32 cts.

FEATHERS.—Dull; Prime White Live Geese, 75 cents; Dark, 65@70 cts.; Common, 35@45 cents.

DOMESTIC DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS.—In preparing these great commercial commodities for market, too much care cannot be taken. Mixing the good with poor or medium produces an assortment for which no reliable market quotation can be furnished. The annexed prices refer to the goods as per grade. Apples, bright, sliced, per lb, 9@10 cts.; fair, sliced, 7½@8 cts.; bright, ¼ sliced, 7 to 8 cts.; common or dark. 6@7 cts. Peaches, peeled, strictly bright, per lb, 14@16 cts.; mixed with dark, 9@12 cts; unpeeled, one-half sliced, choice, 9@11 cts.; one-half sliced, mixed, 7@8 cts; one quarter sliced, choice, 7@8 cts.; one quarter sliced, medium, 6@7 cts. Cherries, pitted, choice, per lb, 28@30 cts.; unpitted, 4@6 cts. Blackberries, good, 12½@13½ cts. Raspberries, good, per lb, 25@30 cts. Pears, per lb, 8@10 cts. Whortleberries, per lb, 12@14 cts. Peanuts, old, per bushel, $1.80@$2 25; Virginia, fancy, $1.75@2.00; good, $1.65@$1.75; common, $1.25@$1.50. Chestnuts, per bushel, $2@2.50. Shellbarks, per bushel, $1.25@$1.50; Walnuts, 60@70 cts.

FLOUR.—We quote:

City Mills Super	6.00	@	6.25
" Extra	7.00	@	7.25
" Family	$10.75		
Howard Street Super	6.75	@	6.80
" " Extra	7.00	@	7.50
" " Family	7.75	@	8.50
Western Super	5.75	@	6.50
" Extra	6.75	@	6.80
" Family	7.50	@	8.00

GRAIN.—*Wheat.*—White, Choice New, $1.75@$1.85;—White, Fair to Prime, $1.55@$1.65; Amber, Prime to Choice, $1.60@$1.65; Red, Prime to Choice, $1.65@$1.70; Red, Fair to Good, $1.50@$1.65; Red, Common, $1.30 to $1.40; Red, Western, $1.58@$1.60; Pennsylvania, $1.60 to $1.63. *Corn.*—White Southern, 70@73 cts; Yellow Southern, 74@75 cts.; Mixed, 71@73 cts· *Oats.*—Common to prime, 48@52 cts. *Rye.*—Common to prime, 90@95 cts.

MOLASSES.—Grocery grades.—New Orleans, 45@65 cts.; Porto Rico, 40@55 cts.; Cuba, 40@50 cts.

MILL FEED.—Brownstuffs, 20@22 cts.; Middlings, 30 to 35 cts., and Heavy, 40@45 cts.

FERTILIZERS.—No change to note. We quote:

Peruvian Guano—gold	$68	₮ ton of 2000 lbs.	
Orchilla and Rodonda	30	₮ ton	"
Turner's Excelsior	60	₮ ton	"
Turner's Ammo. S. Phos	50	₮ ton	"
E. F. Coe's Ammo. S. Phos	55	₮ ton	"
Ober's Phospho-Peruvian Guano	65	₮ ton	"
Ober's Super-Phosphate of Lime	55	₮ ton	"
Soluble Pacific Guano	60	₮ ton	"
Patapsco Guano	60	₮ ton	"
Flour of Bone	60	₮ ton	"
Andrew Coe's Super-phosphate	52	₮ ton	"
Baugh's Raw Bone S. Phos	50	₮ ton	"
Excellenza Cotton Fertilizer	56	₮ ton	"
Excellenza Soluble Phosphate	56	₮ ton	"
Excellenza Tobacco Fertilizer	60	₮ ton	"
Meat and Bone Guano	40	₮ ton	"
Magnum Bonum Soluble Phos	52	₮ ton	"
Ruth's "Challenge' Sol. Phos	60	₮ ton	"
Zell's Raw Bone Phosphate	56	₮ ton	"
Rhodes' do	50	₮ ton	"
Mapes' do	60	₮ ton	"
Bone Dust	45	₮ ton	"
Horner's Maryland Super Phos	50	₮ ton	"
Horner's Bone Dust	45	₮ ton	"
Dissolved Bones	60	₮ ton	"
Baynes' Fertilizer	40	₮ ton	"
"A A" Mexican Guano	30	₮ ton	"
"A" do. do	30	₮ ton	
Moro Phillips' Super-Phosphate	50	₮ ton	
Whann's Raw Bone Super Phos	50	₮ ton	
Md. Fertilizing & Manufacturing Co's Ammoniated Super-Phosphate	.55	₮ ton	
Fine Ground Bone Phosphates	.30	₮ ton	
Plaster	$2.25	₮ bbl.	

PROVISIONS.—Shoulders, 8 cts.; Sides, 9 cts.; Sugar cured Hams, 16 cts.

RICE.—Carolina 9 cts

SALT.—Steady at $1.45@$1.50; Fine, $2.20@$2.30 per sack, and Turk's Island at 45@50 cts. per bushel.

SEEDS.—Clover, Choice Western, $7.00; Maryland, $7.25. Timothy, $3.25@$3.50; Flax, $1.75@$1.85 per bus.

SUGAR.—Grocery grades.—Cuba. 9½@10½ cts.; Porto Rico, 10¼@11 cts.; Demerara, 11¼@12 cts.

VEGETABLES.—*Sweet Potatoes.*—Jersey, $2; Virginia Yellow, $1.50@1.75; Red, $1@$1.25; Cullings, 75@$1.00 per bbl. *Onions.*—White, $2.25; Yellow, $2; Red, $1.50 per bbl. *Turnips.* $1@1.55 per bbl.

WHISKEY.—95@$1.00 per gall.

WOOL.—Long Staple, Unwashed, 48 cts.; Short, do, 43 cts. Long Staple, Washed, 70 cts.; Short Staple, 60 cts.

WHEAT SEEDING!

1871.

1871.

We again call the attention of the farmers of Maryland and Virginia to our EXCELSIOR, composed of 700 pounds of No. 1 Peruvian Guano, and 1300 pounds of Soluble Phosphate of Lime, (bones dissolved in sulphuric acid,) potash and soda, forming the most concentrated, universal and durable fertilizer ever offered to the farmer—combining all the stimulating properties of Peruvian Guano, and the ever durable fertilizing properties of Ground Bones.

Excelsior is in fine dry powder, prepared expressly for drilling, and can be applied in any quantity per acre, however small; and it is the opinion of many close calculating farmers, after TWELVE years experience in testing it side by side with other popular fertilizers, that an application of 100 pounds of Excelsior is equal to 200 to 300 pounds of any other guano or fertilizer offered for sale, therefore is fully 100 to 200 per cent. cheaper.

☞ *The very best evidence we can offer of the valve of our Excelsior as a crop grower and fertilizer, is the fact of its being imitated and counterfeited in this and other cities.*

☞ Every Bag branded as above. Farmers should see that the ANALYSIS and name of J. J. TURNER & CO., are branded on every Bag in RED LETTERS. All others are counterfeits.

PRICE $60 PER TON.

J. J. TURNER & CO.,
42 PRATT STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

THOMAS NORRIS & SON,

Manufacturers and Dealers in

Agricultural Implements,

Field and Garden Seeds, . ertilizers, &c.

Would call special attention to the following first-class Machines, &c.

Westinghouse Threshers and Cleaners,
Aultman & Taylor's Threshers and Cleaners,
Lever and Railway Horse Powers—most approved.
Van Wickle Wheat Fan. Price $37.
American Cider Mill and Press—the best—$40.
Young America Cider Mill and Press—Family use—$25

BICKFORD & HUFFMAN GRAIN DRILLS,

Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, Straw Cutters, Corn Shellers, and all kinds of *Farming Tools. Fresh Field and Garden Seeds, Pure Ground Bone and other Fertilizers.*

THOMAS NORRIS & SON,

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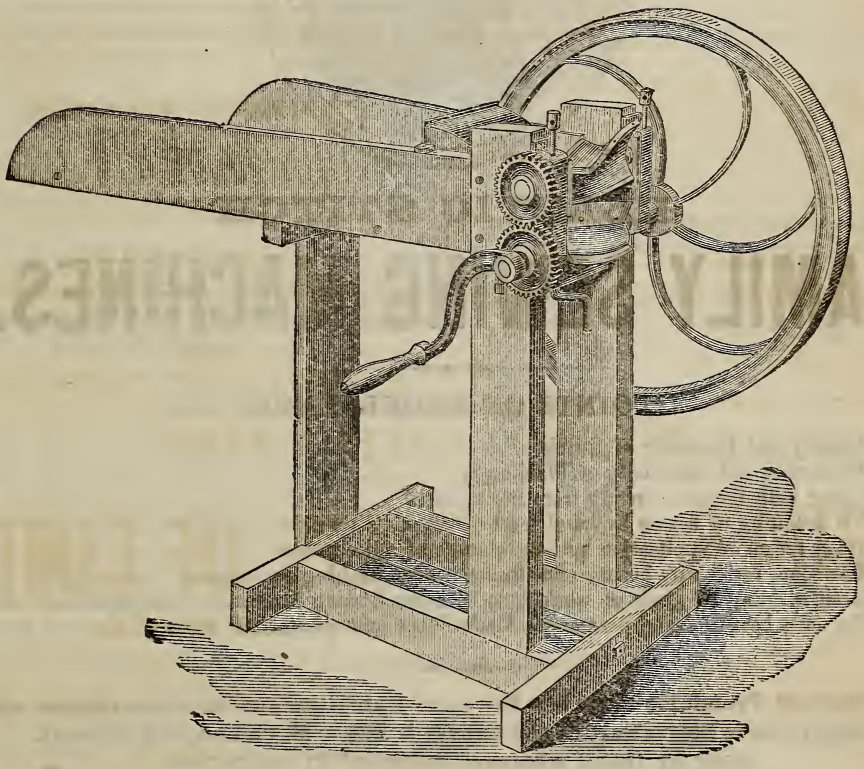
141 PRATT STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

COPPER STRIP
FEED CUTTER.

IT TOOK TEN YEARS TO BRING IT TO PERFECTION.



It is now less in price and will do double the amount of work of any other Feed Cutter in use, and with more ease.

There is no longer any necessity for farmers doing without Feed Cutters, as we have ten sizes, from $10 to $40, and all warranted perfect.

As the demand is greater than can be supplied, we would advise dealers to order early.

E. WHITMAN & SONS,

Nos. 145 and 147 WEST PRATT STREET,

Opposite the Maltby House,

nov-tf BALTIMORE, MD.

PURE FERTILIZERS.

All Fertilizers sold by us are guaranteed pure and as represented, and as most of them are prepared at our own works, and under our own directions, the farmer and planter may rely upon their purity. The market is full of fertilizers, and all highly recommended, but each must in time stand or fall, according to its merit. It is for our interest to protect the interest of the farmer, and realizing this we offer and recommend the following, viz :

THE ANDREW COE
Super-Phosphate OF Lime

Manufactured only by E. WHITMAN & SONS,

From Ground Bone, Peruvian Guano, Sulphuric Acid and Potash.

IS THE MOST RELIABLE PHOSPHATE IN THE MARKET.

Price $52 Per Ton, in Sacks, of 160 pounds each.

—o—

MISSOURI BONE MEAL.

Its Superior an Impossibility.

Analysis July 14th, 1871:

Ammonia	4.38
Bone Phosphate of Lime	49.51

Which is the highest analysis yielded by pure bone. The largest particles are smaller than clover seed.

Price $45 Per Ton, in Sacks of 160 Pounds each.

NOTICE.—*We originated the name* "MISSOURI BONE MEAL" for an article for which we are *Sole Agents* for Maryland and the Southern States. Other dealers have, since our Bone has established such an enviable reputation, advertised and branded their own articles as Missouri Bone, and we give notice to the public that none is the *genuine original* article unless *our name is on every bag.* We send our branded bags to the Mills and *none comes to this market excepting to ourselves.*

—o—

New Jersey Ground Bone.

PRICE $40 PER TON.

We have sold hundreds of tons of this Bone, and it has invariably given satisfaction.

Peruvian Guano, South Carolina Bone (fine ground or dissolved,) Plaster, Sulphuric Acid, and all kinds of Fertilizer materials always on hand and for sale at the lowest market prices.

E. WHITMAN & SONS,

Dealers in Agricultural Implements and Garden Seeds,

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145 & 147 W. PRATT ST., Baltimore, Md.